Dorchester Reporter

"The News and Values Around the Neighborhood"

Volume 41 Issue 8

Thursday, February 22, 2024

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A young Susie King Taylor Library of Congress image

FORGOTTEN NO MORE

Uncovering the remarkable story of Civil War veteran Susie King Taylor

By Cassidy McNeeley REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

Susie King Taylor led a remarkable life. Born into slavery in ante-bellum Georgia, she served as a Union Army nurse, caring for wounded and dying soldiers in the Civil War, although she was never properly compensated for her work. She learned to read and write by attending secret schools and went on to help others to do the same. Later, she became the first Black woman to self-publish a memoir of her wartime experiences.

Yet, despite her many accomplishments, Taylor is a footnote to history here in Boston, where she lived in her later years. In

Mattapan's Mount Hope Cemetery, where she was laid to rest in 1912, her grave marker identified her husband, but listed her only as "Mrs. Taylor."

All of which did not sit well with Marydith Tuitt, a US Navy veteran who serves as commander of the William E. Carter American Legion Post 16 on Blue Hill Avenue.

"As a woman, you know that's what happens to us, we are always put on the back burner. To know that she was just buried as the wife of Mr. Taylor and nothing else, wasn't a surprise," said Tuitt, who worked with others to rectify the cemetery injus-

(Continued on page 6)



Gravestone at Mt. Hope Cemetery relates the life of a remarkable City Hall photo

THERE'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME

BHA helping tenants become first-time buyers

By Cassidy McNeeley REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

A pair of programs that seek to pivot Section 8 tenants into new homeowners are gaining traction, according to Boston Housing Authority officials who hope more qualified residents will tap into the opportunities this year.

One program includes a\$75,000 grant that eligible home buyers can put toward a down-payment to buy a housing unit within city limits.

In 2022, only one Section 8 voucher participant purchased a home in Boston through the program. In 2023, the number rose to 29 and officials say they have more in the pipeline this

Keanna Smith, 34, is one of the latest to take advantage of the grant program. A Section 8



Jennifer Torres on the first-floor porch of the three-decker in the Bowdoin-Geneva area housing the condo unit that she hopes to close on by the end of the month. Cassidy McNeeley photo

certificate-holder for five years, she learned that she could use her voucher toward a mortgage instead of rent and began looking for a home with the help of BHA counsellors.

"Every weekend I because the program only

would go to three or four houses," said Smith, who operates a recruiting agency. "Initially, I found a house outside of Boston, but when I really thought about it, it made sense for me to buy in Boston

offers \$75k if you move to Boston," Smith said.

This month, Smith closed on a colonial-style, four-bedroom and twobath home in Dorchester. "I looked at this house and it was beautiful," said (Continued on page 16)

Mitigation funds from Dot Block boosting dreams of non-profits

By SETH DANIEL

Leaders from 16 non-profit organizations that will split more than \$352,000 in funds contributed by the owners of the Dot Block development gathered last week to highlight the grants, which were awarded through a process administered by the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA).

The meeting at the Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester's Paul R. McLaughlin Center included officials from the BPDA and the key Dot Block developer, Samuels & Associates.

There were 32 applicants for the grants, according to Aaron Hallquist, who supervised the program for the BPDA. He described the distribution process as the first of its kind, with the city planning agency offering a competitive bid process to consider beneficiaries for the developer's negotiated "community benefits fund.'

Dot Block will eventually include 488 units of rental housing, artist live/workspace, and restaurant and retail space. The first phase — with 245 apartment units— was completed last fall.

"The applicants didn't dawdle; they jumped right on this," said Hallquist. "My only regret is it took so long to get the money back out."

Boston's Little Saigon Cultural District—based in Fields Corner—received the largest grant - \$59,264 to install a permanent 'Lantern Alley' in Fields Corner, to support the Community Partners Program, and to fund the Night Market festival this July.

The Boys and Girls Clubs of Dorchester won a

(Continued on page 17)

Tracking the 'Long Black Freedom' struggle in Boston

By Chris Lovett REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

For many in Boston, the story of "busing" begins in September 1974 with the explosive clash over mandatory desegregation of the city's public schools. In the barrage of electrifying news reports, with angry white faces and violent attacks on busloads of Black students in South Boston, the word assumed a charge of its own, evoking white resistance to the dictates of a federal judge.

More explicit in the news footage was Boston's racial divide. From one side, there was



Murphy School students on a peaceful first day of school in 2010. Chris Lovett photo

pushback against Judge W. Arthur Garrity, with a neighborhood closing ranks against what it saw as an invasion of outsiders. From the other side, the

violence over desegregation-even cycling into retaliatory

on Page 15.

See author's essay

attacks on whites—was an ugly outgrowth of Boston's long entrenched racism.

In his book "Before Busing: A History of Boston's Long Black Freedom Struggle,' Zebulon Vance Miletsky highlights what (Continued on page 14)



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And register for our free weekly newsletter via email at Dotnews.com.

Police, Courts & Fire

Multiple firearms charges filed against Mattapan man

Boston Police arrested a 31-year-old Mattapan man after noticing he was carrying what turned out to be a gun loaded with 15 bullets during an early-morning traffic stop on Saturday.

Officers say they pulled Gary Whynter over on Harvard Street for running a red-light and "observed the grip of a firearm on the driver's person." The suspect tried to flee the scene, but he was taken into custody "safely," according to a report from the BPD. A firearm allegedly taken off of Whynter "was later determined to be a Polymer 80 with 15 rounds in the magazine, and 9 rounds in a spare magazine."

He was charged with illegal possession of a firearm, illegal possession of ammunition, and illegal possession of a large-capacity feeding device. This is the second time in less than two years that Whynter has been arrested on gun charges. On Oct. 17, 2022, police arrested him on Washington Street near Glenarm Street in Dorchester after they say they found him with a loaded gun and a loaded magazine. However, the Suffolk County District Attorney's office dropped all the charges last March.

A man convicted of selling large quantities of methamphetamine to a cooperating witness was sentenced to 10 years in prison last week. Joshua Westbrook, 26, was sentenced by US District Court Judge Angel Kelley after pleading guilty last April to one count of distribution and possession with intent to distribute 50 grams or more of methamphetamine. Prosecutors say Westbrook was methamphetamine dealer who distributed over 360 grams of the illegal drug during the controlled purchase, in which he was "observed carrying multiple knives, including a machete style knife."

An admitted gang member associated with a violent crew based on Cameron Street in Dorchester pleaded guilty last week in a federal courtroom to racketeering, conspiracy, and gun charges. Daronde Bethea, 32, is set to be sentenced in May.

He was indicted by a federal grand jury in December 2022 for his role in the gang's violent activities. They have used social media to promote and celebrate murders and other violent crimes, and denigrate rival gangs, according to federal prosecutors. Specifically, Bethea admitted to shooting a rival gang member in Dorchester in June 2018. He also participated in two violent home invasion robberies – in November 2017 in Dorchester and in July 2018 in Canton. According to his indictment: "During a chase from the Canton home, Bethea was captured on a police cruiser camera possessing a loaded handgun that was later recovered." He faces up to 20 years in prison.

SJC Clerk Doyle will not seek re-election

Maura S. Doyle, who has served as Clerk of the Supreme Judicial Court in Suffolk County since she was first elected 28 years ago, will not seek another term this year, according to her office. She is currently the longest-serving elected official living in Dorchester.

Doyle worked in an appointed position as an assistant clerk for four years before winning election to the chief clerk's seat, which she called "an incredible honor."



Maura Doyle 28 years on the job.

"I have been invigorated over the years by the numerous collaborations I have had with my constituents, court professionals, attorneys, law schools, and bar associations," Doyle said in a statement on Feb. 16.

"Most of all, I have cherished working with my extraordinary staff and assistant clerks who have aided me in creating an incredibly responsive, accountable, and professional office for all who seek relief from the highest court in the Commonwealth.'

She added: "However, I will not be seeking reelection in 2024 because the time has now come for me to step back from public life and look to a future spent with my amazing family, who have graciously supported me throughout the years."

A graduate of Northeastern University and Suffolk Law School, Doyle has been a member of the bar since 1981. She and her husband Frank, an attorney, are long-time Dorchester residents and parents of three adult children.

-REPORTER STAFF

Early voting for presidential primary starts Saturday at the Murphy School from 11-7

The early voting period runs from this Saturday (Feb. 24) to next Friday (March 1), and as long as you are registered to vote, you can return your ballot at any convenient ballot box.

If you miss the early voting period, Election Day is Tues., March 5.

This weekend, early in-person voting in Dorchester will take place from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on both Saturday and Sunday at the Richard J. Murphy School at 1 Worrell St.

On Tues., Feb. 27, early

in-person voting will take place at Florian Hall at 55 Hallet St. and the BCYF Perkins Center at 155 Talbot Ave. Both locations will be open from noon to 8 p.m.

If you want to vote early by mail-in ballot, applications are due on Feb. 27, and all ballots must be delivered to a ballot box by 8 p.m. on March 5.

You can see the full in-person early voting schedule with locations at boston.gov/early-voting.

-TAYLOR BROKESH

Louijeune joins EPA's Local Advisory panel

Boston City Council President Ruthzee Louijeuene has been appointed to the US Environmental Protection Agency's Local Government Advisory Committee, where she will be one of four members on the national committee representing the New England region.

The 37-member panel includes representation from 27 states. It comprises elected and appointed officials at local, state, tribal, and territorial governments within the US who provide independent policy advice to the EPA Administrator on a broad range of issues affecting local governments.

On the group's agenda this year, according to the EPA: proposed Lead and Copper Rule improvements, a draft strategy for reducing plastic pollution, developing a cumulative impact framework, and improving communiand engagement on cli-

ty-level communication mate change issues. - REPORTER STAFF

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Quadricentennial of Dot 2717

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UPCOMING CIVIC MEETINGS AND COMMUNITY EVENTS

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Civic Programming

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BPDA will host two public meetings on the proposed "Article 80 Modernization" project, which city officials say will "improve the way the city reviews new development projects." The first meeting is set for Wed., Feb. 28, at 6 p.m. at the Bruce Bolling Municipal Building, 2300 Washington St., Roxbury in the secondfloor school committee room. The second meeting is virtual at the Zoom link available on the website bosonplans.org or go to bit. ly/Article80-Modernization.

The Environmental Protection Agency hosts a public meeting about the Lower Neponset River Superfund site at the Hyde Park Community Center, 1179 River St. on Tues., Feb. 27 at 6:30 p.m.

The Boston State Community Trust, Inc, a subsidiary of the Boston State Hospital Citizens Advisory Committee, Inc, is requesting grant proposals from community-based $organizations \, located \, in \, the \, neighborhoods \,$ of Roxbury, Mattapan, Dorchester, Jamaica Plain, Hyde Park, and Roslindale. This funding round invites proposals in these Job Training Initiatives; Youth Recreation & Social Development Initiatives and Mental Health Initiatives. A maximum of \$10,000 per organization will be distributed in this funding round. The Request for Proposals (RFP) will only be available for distribution to interested parties via e- mail on Fri., March 1, between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. On March 1, interested parties must submit an electronic mail request for a copy of the RFP. All RFP requests must identify the organization that is requesting the RFP. The electronic mail request must be submitted to bjohnson@bevcoassociates.

The John F. Kennedy Library hosts a forum, "The Pursuit of Happiness," on Wed., March 13, at 6 p.m. featuring Jeffrey Rosen, CEO and President of the National Constitution Center, who will discuss his new book "The Pursuit of Happiness: How Classical Writers on Virtue Inspired the Lives of the Founders and Defined America." The book explores what "the pursuit of happiness" meant to our nation's founders and how that famous phrase defined their lives and became the foundation of our democracy. Mary Sarah Bilder, Boston College professor of law, moderates. See jfklibrary.org to register.

View a screening of a new film "The Inundation District" during an in-person forum at the Kennedy Library that will convene at 6 p.m. on Thurs., March 21. The film explores the implications of Boston's decision to build the Seaport District along its coast at sea level, followed by a panel discussion about the threats of climate change with **Joe Christo**, managing director of the Stone Living Lab, and Sanjay Seth, chief of staff and senior advisor for Climate and Equity in EPA Region 1, moderated by filmmaker and Boston Globe reporter David Abel. The post-film conversation will be available for both in-person and virtual attendees, and will begin streaming at approximately 7:20 p.m. Seejfklibrary.org. The Boston Landmarks Commission (BLC) will hold its monthly public hearing on Tues., Feb. 27, at 4 p.m. via Zoom. The design reviewers will hear a proposal by the Comfort Kitchen restaurant on Columbia Road, which, according to the meeting agenda, "wishes to cover 2 existing patios to increase seating capacity for 3-4 seasons rather than just summer months." For the Zoomlink, go to boston.gov/public-notices/16099256. The BLC will also discuss a petition by Patrick Mulligan to demolish a building at 33 Pearl St. in Dorchester.

Boston Centers for Youth & Families, the City of Boston's Public Facilities Department, and the Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services will host a third community meeting to explore options for the design of a new community center in the Grove Hall section of Dorchester via Zoom on Wed., March 13, at 6 p.m. To participate, use this link: bit.ly/BCYFGroveHallCenter-DesignMeeting3.

SEND IN EVENT NOTICES TO NEWSEDITOR@DOTNEWS.COM

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New-look market to open on Dot Ave. in coming months

By Seth Daniel News Editor

Dorchester Market is expected to re-open within the next three months in a new space at the corner of East Cottage Street and Dorchester Avenue, according to the property owner, Peter Sarbaugh, who briefed members of the Columbia-Savin Hill Civic Association (CSH-CA) Planning Committee last week.

The store will occupy part of the ground floor of a new five-story building that includes 38 residential units on the floors

"We have the walk-in freezers, the coolers, and all the equipment for the new Dorchester Market being kept and ready in our other space," said Sarbaugh. "They are plumbing and hooking up refrigerators, and we're waiting on our sprinkler certificate inspection from the Fire Department. We should be about 90 days out from when the market can be opened back up, hopefully.3

The market did business from a one-story retail building on the site for decades and was operated by Peter McGee, who will run the new market as well.

Long known for its high-quality butcher shop, the upgraded store will also sell beer and



The new 38-unit building at East Cottage Street and Dorchester Avenue has most of its residential units occupied now but work on the two retail spaces on the ground floor has been tied up by slow permitting approvals. The restored Dorchester Market, which occupied the site previously in a one-story retail building, is about 90 days out from a re-opening.

wine with a license secured last year with community support. McGee and Sarbaugh have said they envision a more modern market along the lines of those in the Back Bay and the Beacon Hill neighborhood.

Sarbaugh says the building's residential units are now occupied, with the first residents having moved in beginning last September. There is no tenant in place yet for a second ground-level retail space, he said, adding that he's being selective about the space and focusing on getting the market open

first, and then putting full effort behind filling the other space.

"It's finding the right person and business that both enhances the neighborhood, and complements the Banshee Pub right there," he said, "something unique and something that has a local neighborhood feel. I'm searching for that and want to make the right choice here rather than have it be an Excel spreadsheet decision."

Sarbaugh also emphasized that some of the delays have not been of their making, reminding everyone that the project

was conceived as early as 2018, and construction was halted for a while during the pandemic - starting back up in 2022. In that time, he said, there was a lot of transition within the city.

"Through some ISD transitions and people leaving the city, our $commercial\, space\, permit$ was not fully issued until Jan. 18," he noted. "We did as much on the retail spaces as we could up to that point."

CIVIC NOTEBOOK

• A proposal to replace a one-story commercial property at 1195-1199 Dorchester Ave. with



 $The \, Dorchester \, Market \, store front \, trumpets \, `Hooray',$ We Are Opening Soon.' Seth Daniel photos

a three-story building housing retail and office space was discussed briefly at the planning committee's meeting. An abutters' meeting on the topic was set for Feb. 21. The current building, owned by Kendall Van Tran of Canton, is now occupied by a nail supply business. It is located $next to the \, new \, Dot \, Block$ development.

 A plan by James Christopher to demolish atwo-family duplex-style home at 33 Crescent Ave. and replace it with a new three-story, nine-unit building with six parking spaces was also discussed. The plan includes seven one-bedroom units, and two two-bedroom units, all ranging from 547 to 955 square feet.

Planning committee chairperson Kristine Hoag noted that some who attended an abutters

meeting held earlier this month raised concerns about the size of the project given that it is on a 4,900-square-foot two-family duplex lot.

"There were a fair number of suggestions that they try to go smaller because this is a two-family built in 1924," said Hoag.

Don Walsh said the Crescent Avenue plan and a similar proposal on Pearl Street, are changing the character of the area. "Going from two to nine units is outrageous,' he said. "It's literally turning into South Boston...We need to stop it before it becomes rampant. There's already too many of these going on.'

Added Hoag: "I'm hopeful this project, when it come before us, will be a different project."

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Report recounts changing nature of immigration in greater Boston

By Chris Lisinski STATE HOUSE **News Service**

Immigrants have been steadily representing a larger share of the Boston area's population for more than half a century, but where they come from and where they settle has been changing significantly in recent years, according to new analysis.

In an extensive 50-page $report\,that\,examined\,the$ significant economic impact immigrants have on the region, researchers found that South American and Asian countries are now the most common places of origin for the foreign-born population across Greater Boston's dozens of communities.

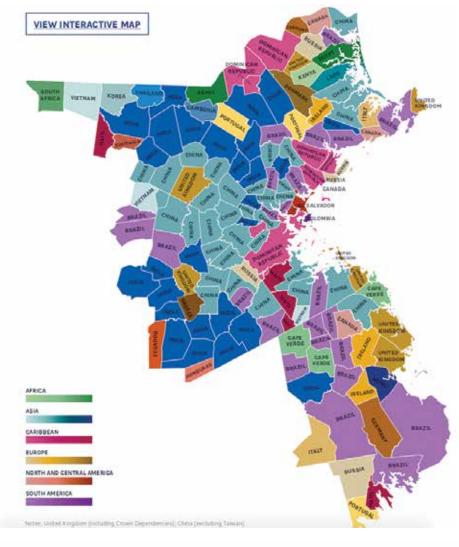
The change is a relatively recent development, authors of the Boston Indicators and Immigration Research Initiative report said. In 1990, the most common country of origin for the region's foreign-born population was Canada, and 6 of the top 10 countries were in Europe.

By 2021, neither Canada nor a single European country cracked the top 10, which by that point was led by China, the Dominican Republic, and India.

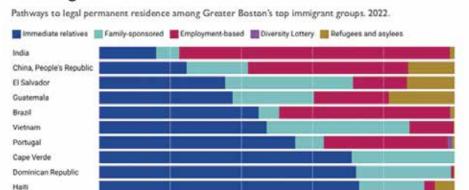
"That's a pretty significant shift over the course of just three decades," said Kelly Harrington, a senior research manager at Boston Indicators and one of the report's

Researchers found the immigrant population in Greater Boston also has a different makeup than the country as a whole, reflecting "a more diverse global spread.'

Nearly one in four foreign-born residents in the United States come



Massachusetts' top immigrant groups come to the U.S. through a wide range of channels.



from Mexico, but only one in 100 of greater Boston's immigrants were born in Mexico, according to the report's analysis of US

Census Bureau data.

Verdean immigrants in the United States live in Greater Boston, which is also home to substantial populations hailing from Portugal, Cambodia, and A majority of all Cape other countries, the report found. The region has a higher share of immigrants from China (9.9 percent, compared to 4.9 percent nationally), the Dominican Republic (9.4 percent in Greater Boston, 2.7 percent nationally), Brazil (6.7 percent in Greater Boston. 1.1 percent nationally) and Haiti (5.9 percent in Greater Boston, 1.5 percent nationally).

Where immigrants settle is changing, too.

Some communities farther away from the urban core experienced significant growth from 2011 to 2021 in the foreign-born share of their populations, like Revere (11 percentage point increase), Boxborough (9 percentage point increase), Marlborough (8 percentage point increase), and Brockton (8 percentage point increase), according to the report.

Over the same span, the share of Boston's population that was born in another country grew just a single percentage point, Cambridge's share grew 2 percentage points and Somerville's dropped by 2 percentage points.

"Greater Boston's foreign-born population is still largely concentrated in Boston and inner-ring suburbs like Cambridge, Somerville, and Chelsea. But this is changing quickly," authors wrote. "Boston itself was once the hub for new immigrant arrivals to the region, but as housing costs have skyrocketed, many immigrant families are being pushed to move to farther-flung parts of the region and many new arrivals are skipping the urban core altogether."

Although immigrants have been steadily representing a larger share of the city of Boston's population for decades - and a surge in migration over the last year has put the state's emergency shelter system under enormous strain - researchers suggested the record for immigration dates back to before the Civil War.

In 1850, which the report said is the earliest year with Census data available for place of birth, immigrants represented 38 percent of Boston's residents. That percentage dropped in the ensuing years as a result of a series of laws and policies designed to curb immigration, like the 1882 Chinese Exclusion Act, or to impose specific quotas on countries of origin.

Boston's foreign-born population share reached a low of 13 percent in 1960, and since then has been climbing, reaching 29 percent in 2021.

Researchers dived into a range of economic factors, too, writing that immigrants contribute about \$103 billion in impact each year, or 21 percent of the regional GDP, mirroring the foreign-born share of the population.

Pushing against a stereotype that immigrants work primarily in low-wage jobs, authors said about 6 in 10 foreign-born residents in Greater Boston work middle- or upper-wage jobs. Immigrants are also more likely to start businesses, representing 28 percent of all business owners and owning 40 percent of "Main Street businesses."

"This shows us really what is most important to bear in mind here: not only are immigrants an integral part of the economy, but they're also central to keeping afloat the businesses that we rely on every single day," said Anthony Capote, a senior data and policy analyst with the Immigration Research Initiative and another of the report's authors.

Campbell, state's housing chief lament Milton zoning plan rebuff

The Milton voters who last week rejected a zoning plan that complied with a 2021 law meant to encourage badly needed housing production "chose to be part of the eral Andrea Campbell said last week as she and the Healey administration pledged to enforce

The town "will begin losing out on significant solution," Attorney Gen- state" as a result of last ed" that the Boston

Wednesday's town vote, the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities said via social media. The statement added that Gov. Healey's administration problem rather than the grant funding from the was "deeply disappointsuburb's zoning plan was rejected.

The so-called MBTA Communities Act requires that 177 cities and towns that host or are adjacent to T service have at least one zoning district in which denser,

multi-family housing is allowed as of right. Towns that don't comply with the law are not eligible for three significant state grant programs: MassWorks, the Housing Choice Initiative, and the Local Capital Projects Fund. The Healey administration and Campbell have made clear for months that they would follow through on withholding funds from non-compliant municipalities, including as recently as last week, when the governor urged town voters to back the plan.

"While we are hopeful that we can work with the town to put forward a new plan that would bring them into compliance with the #MB-TACommunitiesLaw, at this time they are non-compliant, which means they will begin losing out on significant grant funding from the

state," Housing Secretary Ed Augustus' office said last Wednesday night. "We are grateful to the 175 communities that are in compliance with the law for recognizing that we all have a role to play in addressing our state's housing challenges."

The Worcester suburb of Holden is also non-compliant with the law. In December, a Superior Court judge dismissed a lawsuit brought against the town by the Central Massachusetts Housing Alliance for its refusal to comply, according to the Telegram & Gazette.

"When a municipality elects to evade its responsibility to comply with the law, we will meet our responsibility to enforce the law," Campbell said.

–CÓLIN Á. YOUNG STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE



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"Not everything that is faced can be changed, but nothing can be changed until it is faced."

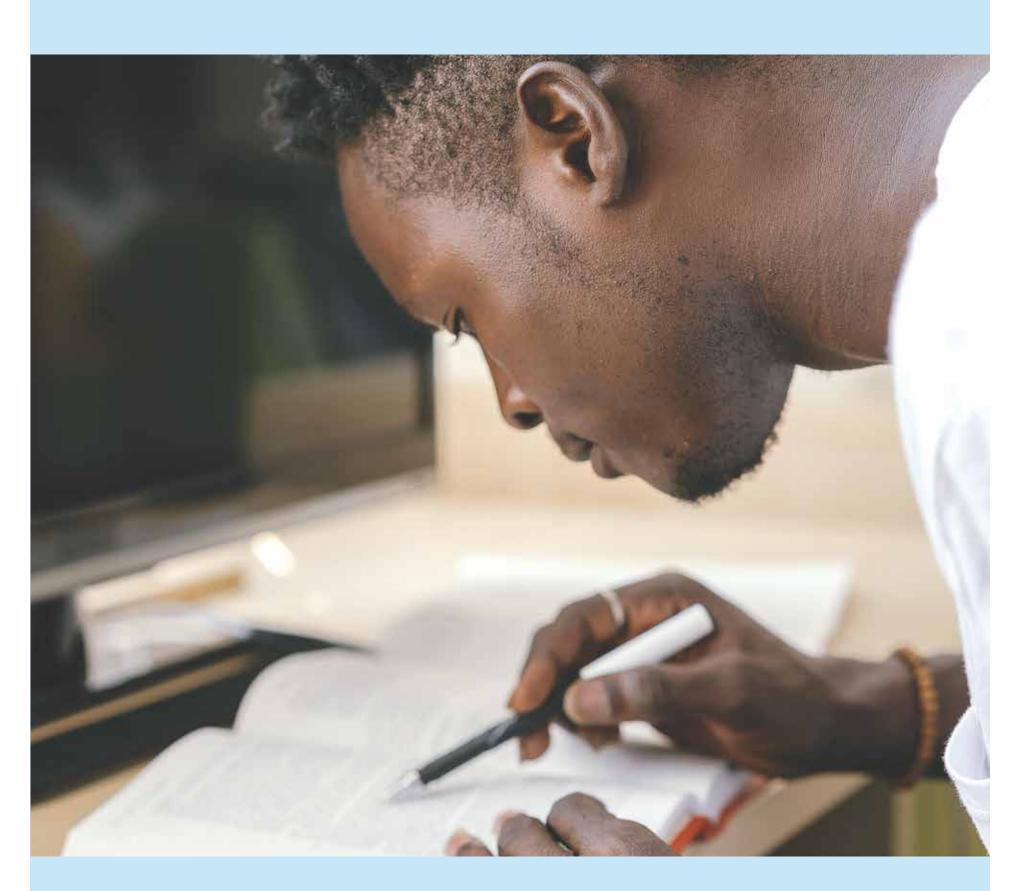
—James Baldwin

In this time, when the truth about the Black experience in America and efforts to promote diversity, equity and inclusion are under attack, we are called upon to double down—to remember and to honor our past. Only then can we help pave the way to a more equitable future.

The Boston Foundation is committed to bringing truth to our history – to deepen a shared understanding of how systemic and structural disparities have plagued Boston and the Commonwealth. We've been here for more than a century, but we're just getting started.

Let's face the past in order to change the future.

Move Equity, Move Boston.





Uncovering the remarkable life of Civil War veteran Susie King Taylor

(Continued from page 1)

tice. In October 2021, she was on hand when Mayor Kim Janey unveiled a new grave marker that gives the highlights Taylor's life.

By doing that they said they hope that more Bostonians will remember the sacrifices of Black Americans who fought to preserve the Union and end slavery.

"There were 200,000 black soldiers in the Union Army during the Civil War and a lot of people who live in the Commonwealth, who are African American, have African American Civil War Union soldiers as their ancestors, might not even know that," said Roderick Fraser, a leader of the Massachusetts chapter of The Sons of Union Veterans Civil War (SUVCW). "These soldiers contributed just as much as anyone else."

It was Fraser who brought the forgotten story of Susie King Taylor to Tuitt's attention. Veterans who belong to the Carter Post take special care of burial plots at Mount Hope Cemetery and participate in Memorial Day observances there.

Fraser told Tuitt that he'd located Taylor's grave, but was shocked that there was no recognition at the site of what she had done in her life.

"When they found her name on the records and did some more research, they brought us into what they were doing about the memorial," said Tuitt.

Together, they discovered that she was born into slavery in 1848 as Susie Baker in on a plantation in Liberty County, Georgia, where she lived until she was 7. She then was moved to Savannah with her grandmother, where she was taught to read and write by other slaves and white friends — all at great risk to themselves since it was illegal to do so in the slaveholding state.

In 1862, with war exploding all around her, she and her family escaped



Former Boston Mayor Kim Janey presided at a ceremony to dedicate a new memorial stone for Susie King Taylor at her burial site inside Mount Hope Cemetery in Mattapan in 2021. Janey is flanked here by Roderick Fraser of The Sons of Union Veterans Civil War, left, and Mary-dith Tuitt, commander of the William E. Carter American Legion Post 16.

 ${\it Photo \ courtesy \ John \ Wilcox/Mayor's \ Office}$

to freedom on St. Simon's Island during a battle between the Confederate and Union armies at Fort Pulaski. While on the boat to St. Simon's, the ship commander discovered Taylor's literary skills and later asked her to operate a school for the children and adults on the island.

Taylor became a laundress after enrolling in the army with her husband, Union soldier Edward King, and tended to the men of the 33rd United States Colored Infantry. Hermina Glass-Hill, a historian and founder of the Susie King Taylor Women's Institute and

Ecology Center in Georgia, says Taylor was much more than an orderly for the fighting men.

"She not only was the laundress. She was a cook, she was a rifle cleaner, and then her crowning glory was when she began to assist the doctors with collecting the sick and injured on the battlefield," said Glass-Hill. "She said that's when her life's work began."

She added: "She considered herself to have been a nurse in the tradition of other Black women in antebellum society who were already healers and midwives and could mix up herbs and medicines." In addition to her various roles, Taylor taught soldiers how to read and write during her free time.

She also learned how to handle a musket. In her memoir, she wrote that she "could shoot straight and often hit the target. I assisted in cleaning the guns and used to fire them off, to see if the cartridges were dry, before cleaning and reloading, each day. I thought this great fun. I was also able to take a gun apart and put it together again."

She was on hand for the capture in February 1865 of Charleston, South Carolina – the city where the war commenced in 1861 with the assault on Fort Sumter. She assisted the Union soldiers who fought the fires set by evacuating Confederates.

She wrote: "For three or four days the men fought the fire, saving the property and effects of the people, yet these white men and women could not tolerate our black Union soldiers, for many of them had formerly been their slaves; and although these brave men risked life and limb to assist them in their distress, men and even women would sneer and molest them whenever they met them."

Immediately after the war, Susie and her husband returned to Savannah, where he worked as a carpenter and she started her own school from her home because, she said, "there was not any public school for negro children."

In 1866, Edward King died. She later relocated to Boston, where she found work as a domestic servant with a wealthy family. It was here that she met her second husband, Russell L. Taylor, and here where she remained for the rest of her life.

In the aftermath of the war, the US Army refused to recognize Taylor's service as an army nurse, so she did not receive any form of payment for her service. But she shared her experiences

HAPPY BLACK HISTORY MONTH

from State Representative Brandy Fluker Oakley.
(12th Suffolk District - Dorchester, Hyde Park, Mattapan and Milton)

"Those who say it can't be done are usually interrupted by others doing it." —James Baldwin

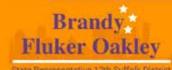














Black history is Dorchester history.

Black history is made every single day.

Happy Black History Month!



PAID FOR BY THE COMMITTEE TO ELECT AYANNA PRESSLEY

through a memoir titled, "Reminiscences of My Life in Camp with the 33rd United States Colored Troops, Late 1st S.C. Volunteers," which was privately published in 1902.

In one part of her memoir, she reflects on her experiences and offers insights into why she settled in Boston: "I have been in many [s]tates and cities, and in each I have looked for liberty and justice, equal for the black as for the white; but it was not until I was within the borders of New England, and reached old Massachusetts, that I found it."

When Russell Taylor died in 1901, she had no remaining family in Boston to ensure that she had a proper burial when her own time came. This likely is why her gravesite remained unmarked until Roderick Fraser proposed the idea to properly memorialize her in 2019.

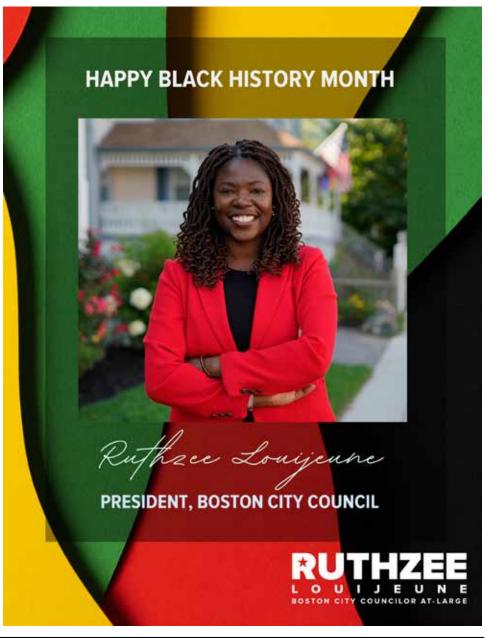
"I learned about Susie King Taylor and then I learned that her grave was

unmarked. I then brought it up as a proposal to the Sons of Union Veterans that we should do something to memorialize her," said Fraser. "When somebody asks, 'Why would you put up a monument for this woman?' It's because she's a Union veteran of the Civil War and she was quite a remarkable veteran. All the different things that she did is an important story, especially for young people to know: Here's this woman who was born in slavery and overcame all this adversity."

Taylor's memorial was unveiled on Oct. 2, 2021, in the Elm Grove section of the Mount Hope Cemetery. The reveal was completed by Mayor Janey, the first woman and person of color to lead the city, and Michael Paquette, who at the time, was the commander-in-chief of the SUVCW.

While Taylor was neglected by history mainly due to her race, the intersectionality of gender was an added element, says Tuitt. "From a woman's perspective, we are overlooked many times for our accomplishments. I want to say that recognizing her and memorializing her kind of opened the door for other women to be recognized for that untraditional work."

Said Glass-Hill: "We know about Harriet Tubman, Sojourner Truth, Clara Barton. These are folks whom she [Taylor] names in her memoir. We know all about those people, but no one hardly knows anything about her.'



WISHING EVERYONE A HAPPY AND UPLIFTING

FOR THE CITY. FOR THE TIMES.



Nominees sought for city's Legacy Business awards

By Taylor Brokesh Reporter Correspondent

The deadline to nominate a local small business for the city's Legacy Business Program has been extended to this Friday (Feb. 23). This is the second year that the mayor's Office of Economic Opportunity and Inclusion (OEOI) is hosting the program, which is intended to highlight enterprises with deep roots in the communities they serve.

To be eligible, a business must have operated for at least ten years in the city and contributed "to the cultural, historical, and societal asset of Boston's community or neighborhood." If chosen, the city will provide "targeted technical assistance," primarily focused

on succession planning and employee ownership, as well as a portion of the \$1 million Legacy Business Support Grant funded by the OEOI. Legacy Businesses also receive a plaque, a badge, and a photo opportunity with their city councillors.

Aliesha Porcena, the Director of Small Business for the city, said this program was inspired by the damage the pandemic wrought upon the small business community in Boston.

"The businesses that were closing held a special place in a lot of people's hearts," Porcena said. "We thought, what could we have done to prevent this? How could we stop these iconic businesses that have given so much to their communities



Aliesha Porcena, Mayor Wu and Allan Edwards, proprietor of Allan's Formal Wear on Blue Hill Avenue in Dorchester, which was selected in the first round of Legacy Business awards last year. The full list of 2023 winners is shown on this panel from an event held at Faneuil Hall.

Mayor's Office photos

from closing? That's really where the idea for this program came from."

They city received more than 1,400 nominations from residents. This year, she said, they have reached around 1,000.

"These are businesses that have always been there to support you," said Porcena. "They're the ones to sponsor little leagues, to cater neighborhood events, they're

where people go after school to hang out."

"Often," Porcena said, "these are places that aren't acknowledged as they should be. This program wants to finally change that."

Five Dorchester businesses won the inaugural award last year: Allan's Formal Wear on Blue Hill Ave., DJ's European Market and Deli on Boston St., Hicks Auto Body

on Talbot Ave., Pho Hoa on Dorchester Ave., and Chez-Vous Rollerskating Rink on Rhoades St.

Derick Foster-Toney, part owner of Chez-Vous, told the *Reporter* that after being closed for two full years due to the pandemic, receiving the title of "Legacy Business" in 2023 was a meaningful gesture from the city that showed its support and dedication.



"It's scary how legendary places can just disappear, particularly in this area," he said. "The neighborhood can change overnight. So, we were very grateful to receive this award that has helped us slightly recover and keep going."

Foster-Toney said he hopes other small businesses can seize the opportunity to expand, rebrand if needed, and stay on track for success if they were also chosen for the award.

"It's always been few and far between for small businesses in this area to have these kinds of opportunities," he said. "I hope this is just the start of what can be for Boston and they can keep the momentum going."

If you would like to nominate your favorite local business, visit bit. ly/bostonlegacy.





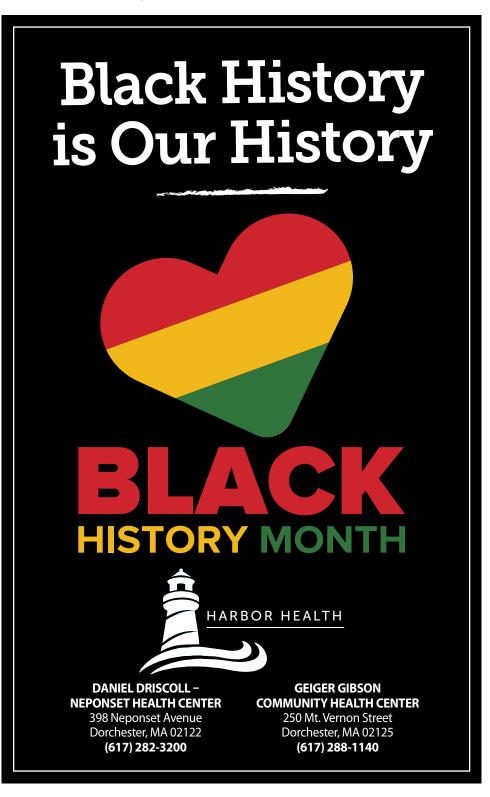


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METROPOLITAN COUNCIL FOR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY



Reporter's People in and around our Neighborhoods

Mattapan Health raises awareness on HIV/AIDS

Feb. 7 marked National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day and the Mattapan Community Health Center (MCHC) along with other community partners participated in a panel discussion held at the Spoke Art Center in downtown Boston, where advocates spoke about the disproportionate impact that the virus has on the Black community and the stigma that discourages people from getting tested.

The evening started out with a dinner prepared by Slade's Bar & Grill and a viewing of the movie "Rustin," a biopic about civil rights pioneer Bayard Rustin, which was followed by a Q & A Session.

Dr. Aimee Williams, a family medicine physician and medical director at



Mattapan Community Health Center panelists participated in a Feb. 7 Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day Photo courtesy MHCH event downtown.

MCHC and Dr. Geeth Kavya Minima Reddy, family medicine physician and director of the Cares Program at MCHC answered questions from the audience, along with Dr. Margaret M. Sullivan, a general infectious disease physician at BMC; Nigel Griffith, a Spoke Art Center board member, event coordinator, and moderator; Spencer Collins, actor, filmmaker, and owner of B.L.A.C. Mail Productions; Jennease Hyatt, community liaison at Gilead Sciences; and Emerson Miller, senior manager of Population Health and Support Services at Upham's Community Care.

This event was the first in a series of events planned throughout the



Standish Village resident Anne Blesedell with Mi-

\$50K Boston Foundation grant boosts Crispus Attucks Center

The Crispus Attucks erwise be able to serve," Children's Center (CACC)in Dorchester's Grove Hall has received a \$50,000 grant from The Boston Foundation to provide early childhood education for children, including children of recent immigrants, whose families are low-income but are not able to access a voucher or subsidy through the commonwealth or city.

"This grant will allow us to offer high quality early education for families we would not othsaid executive director Amanda Gorner. "These resources are important as we continue our work to make sure every child gets the best possible start in school and life to help them reach their full potential."

Founded in 1971, the center serves more than 200 children each year, most of whom live in Dorchester, Roxbury, Mattapan, and Hyde Park. Some 96 percent of families who attend receive a subsidy or voucher

through the city or the commonwealth.

"For years, the Boston Foundation and our research partners have highlighted the importance of access to quality early childhood education on the lives of young children and their caregivers," said Orlando Watkins, vice president and chief program officer at the Boston Foundation. "It has also shown the need to support providers, and to make care available to far more families. We

are proud to partner with Crispus Attucks Children's Center and recognize its half-century of meeting vital needs in Boston with this Safety Net Grant."

The largest single-site infant and toddler education and care program in the city of Boston, CACC also provides preschool education, and is part of the Boston Public School's Universal Pre-Kindergarten Program.

- REPORTER STAFF



Standish Village resident Irene Grobman with

Steps in Time delights Standish Village family

Dancing instructor Michael Winward visits the Standish Village Lower Mills community regularly to teach dance through the Steps in Time program, which aims to spread joy through social dance by approaching dance as a means for happy, healthy aging.

Facilitators apply adaptive techniques, developed over years of embodied practice: Partnering with residents of assisted living and mind care communities.

METCO names new board chair

Darnell Billings, who has been a member of the METCO Board of Directors since 2017, is the group's new board chairman. An associate broker at Keller Williams Realty Boston, Billings is a Boston native who was a METCO student in Lexington Public Schools. He



Darnell Billings, at left is a graduate of Lexington

High School, Class of 2001.

Inspired by his son, a current METCO student in the Lincoln Public Schools, and his wife, a member of the Lincoln METCO Parent Board, he joined the METCO

Board of Directors in 2017. He replaces Patrick Kimble, who has served as board chair since 2019. Kimble is founder and managing partner of Caste Capital, a Boston-based alternative investment management firm that he founded in 2021.

YESTERYEAR ARCHIVE **DORCHESTER HISTORICAL SOCIETY** Geraldine Trotter

The following is from the entry on the Boston Women's Heritage Trail for Geraldine Pindell Trotter, who lived at 97 Sawyer Ave.

"Geraldine Trotter was a Boston-born civil rights activist in the early 20th century who moved to Dorchester after her marriage in 1899. She was the associate editor of The Boston Guardian, an African American newspaper co-founded by her husband, William Monroe Trotter, which was considered radical



at the time because it challenged white progressives who largely saw race relations as a southern problem. Her editing and bookkeeping skills were instrumental

in keeping the paper afloat. Her death from pneumonia at age 46 during the 1918 influenza epidemic is seen as one reason for its loss of influence. ... "She is celebrated in composer Francine Trester's "A Walk in Her Shoes," a musical composition premiered by the Boston Landmarks Orchestra in 2021."

The Boston Women's Heritage Trail has posted a new trail for Uphams Corner on its website: bwht.org/ Dorchester-tour/ The Society is hosting a program about the Upham's Corner Trail via Zoom at 3 p.m. on Sat., March 9. Use this link to register: dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org/event-details/ on-the-trail-of-womenshistory

These posts can be viewed on the blog at dorchesterhistoricalsociety.org. The Society's William Clapp and James Blake Houses are open to the public on the third Sunday of the month from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Editorial

Healey lays it on Steward: Get out!

Gov. Maura Healey has had enough of Steward Health Care and its elusive CEO, Ralph de la Torre, who has brought the state's health care system to a precarious tipping point. In a stinging rebuke made public on Tuesday, Healey sent de la Torre a letter demanding that Steward unseal its financial records and move "immediately" to find new operators to take over their Massachusetts hospitals, including Dorchester's Carney Hospital.

The letter, dated Tuesday, basically accuses de la Torre of lying to state regulators as they scramble to keep the Carney and other Steward assets safe and open. She instructs him to comply with state inspectors, who are now monitoring all of the Steward-run hospitals and warns that "we will take all actions necessary – in consultation with hospital leadership to protect patients, including freezing admissions, closing beds, canceling procedures, and transferring patients to other hospitals."

Healey's toughest admonitions are aimed at what she characterizes as Steward's refusal to comply with court orders to turn over financial documents essential to making broader decisions about the hospitals' fates.

"But you and your team have not been forthcoming, truthful, or responsive about what's happening with your financial status, operating plans, and contingency strategies," Healey wrote, reminding de la Torre that in her prior job as Massachusetts attorney general, she "successfully defended the authority of the state to require you to provide this information, and the court has ordered you to do so. Yet you have refused to comply with the court order and continued to delay and obfuscate. During that time, there have been reports of mismanagement, unpaid vendors, legally questionable practices, and exorbitant profits for your equity partners and yourself, all while your hospitals continued to struggle financially."

Here's the bottom line from the governor: It's time for de la Torre and his team to go.

"The time has come to move past our many months of discussions and begin executing a safe, orderly transition of your seven licensed facilities in Massachusetts to new operators as soon as possible," Healey wrote. "This begins with your commitment to fully disclose the financial information we have requested by close of business on February 23, 2024. Your continued refusal to do so, particularly at this moment, is irresponsible and an affront to the patients, workers, and communities that the Steward hospitals serve."

Healey's letter closes frostily: "Now is the time to put your patients, staff, and communities first. Turn this information over so that we can come together to protect health care and jobs in our communities. There is no time to wait."

And if the pointed contents of Healey's letter were not enough to get de la Torre's attention, it surely will not escape his legal team's notice that Healey decided to send copies of her missive to just two other public officials: Attorney General Andrea Joy Campbell and US Attorney for Massachusetts Joshua Levy.

Healey isn't the only elected official on the offensive this week. US Senators Elizabeth Warren and Ed Markey -in fact, the whole Massachusetts congressional delegation – are also demanding answers from Cerberus, the private equity firm that Warren blames "for looting Steward Health Care."

Healey and the congressional team are spot-on in their prescription. It's time for new management at Carney and other Steward hospitals that will actually live up to the company's name.

-Bill Forry

The Reporter

A publication of Boston Neighborhood News Inc. 150 Mt. Vernon St., Dorchester, MA 02125

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Next Issue: Thursday, February 29, 2024 Next week's Deadline: Monday, February 26 at 12 p.m. Published weekly on Thursday mornings All contents @ Copyright 2024 Boston Neighborhood News, Inc.

Reparations in Boston: Why Now?

By Joseph D. Feaster, Jr. SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

As we continue into 2024 – a year that marks the 50th anniversary of the desegregation of public schools in the city through busing – Boston has a unique opportunity to be a leader in embracing an issue that cities and states across the country are reckoning with.

Known for being the birthplace of the American revolution, the city must seize this opportunity to be the birthplace of another kind of revolution, one that will address and repair the deep-rooted history of forced enslavement and systematic oppression through reparations.

With Massachusetts having been the first colony to legalize slavery, it's impossible to deny the legacy of slavery woven into the fabric of Boston's history. Beyond the physical history, unjust laws and policies were established by city, state, and federal government in the years following abolition that created the systematic oppression that reverberates throughout Boston today.

Redlining, race-based deed restrictions, discriminatory housing policies, segregation, and the war on crime and drugs are just a few of the many policies that directly led to the staggering disparities in wealth, career and education opportunities, health, and overall experiences across race in our city.

Our communities are long past due for the acknowledgement and repair of the great harms that came out of individuals, institutions, corporations, businesses, and the City of Boston's role in the slave trade and its legacy.

Many tend to associate reparations with the assignment of blame, an impractical focus on the past, and unfair or unjustified benefits. These notions are misguided and simply untrue - because the intergenerational effects of slavery and the discriminatory policies that followed still have tangible effects on the Black community today. Reparations presents an opportunity to not only acknowledge historical wrongdoings, but also to actively heal and reconcile the harms of systemic racism. Now is an especially critical time.

As Boston becomes increasingly unaffordable amid a housing crisis, residents whose



ancestors laid the foundations for this city are among the first to be pushed out. Reparations can take many forms – financial compensation, new housing programs, and investment in education and businesses are just a few – and a key part of the city's Reparations $Task\,Force's\,process\,will\,be\,defining\,what\,reparations$ can mean for Boston through community feedback and rigorous historical and topical research.

The recently selected research teams are Boston-based, qualified experts with demonstrated commitments to restorative truth and community engagement in their work. At the Task Force's most recent public meeting, the room was charged with the community's excitement, emotion, and energy for the progress of this work.

Importantly, reparations is neither a zero-sum game nor is it the point of reparations to make anyone "pay" for the sins of their ancestors. However, the descendants of slave owners and their policies of enslavement benefited from those institutions, businesses, and government. At its core, reparations is about repairing harms of the past that informed the creation of oppressive systems still in place today. By dismantling these systems and prioritizing that repair and healing as a community, every resident in Boston will benefit from increased inclusivity and

Embracing reparations is the radical commitment to justice that a time marked by social unrest and unprecedented struggles demands. Boston, through its Reparations Task Force, is prepared to embark on this restorative journey.

Joseph D. Feaster, Jr. is chairman of the City of Boston Reparations Task Force.

'Skills-based hiring' enhances the talent pools for businesses

By Bridgette Wallace SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

Gov. Healey's executive order to implement skillsbased hiring in Massachusetts is a landmark decision, particularly impactful for organizations like $G\{Code\}$, based in Dorchester. As its executive director, I have seen the profound effect of valuing skills over academic credentials, especially for those marginalized groups who are trying to enter the tech sector.

Consider the story of Maria, a G{Code} graduate. Before joining our Intro to Web Development program, Maria struggled with housing insecurity and juggling multiple low-wage jobs. After completing our program, she landed a lucrative internship role in tech, a true reflection of her untapped potential. Maria's journey is not unique at $G\{Code\}$; it mirrors the experiences of many participants who have risen from economic hardship to greater stability through thriving tech careers.

Our statistics show that roughly 42 percent of Intro to Web Development participants have battled housing insecurity. Impressively, more than 60 percent secure tech-related employment post-program, witnessing an average salary increase of 50 percent. These figures powerfully advocate for the effectiveness of skills-based education and employment strategies.

chusetts should adopt this skills-based hiring model. based on Hutchings Street in Dorchester. This isn't merely a shift in policy - it's an embrace of

inclusivity and diversity in the workforce.

While some contend that skills-based hiring could diminish the value of traditional education, our approach at G{Code} demonstrates the opposite. We recognize and honor diverse educational journeys and experiences, aiming to broaden, not replace, the avenues to opportunity and success.

We forge meaningful collaborations with local tech companies and educational institutions, bridging the gap between unconventional talent and the industry. These partnerships are vital for successfully implementing skills-based hiring, proving that such an approach is equitable and economically prudent. Furthermore, this method fosters innovation and growth while unlocking a broader talent pool to join the workforce.

Gov. Healey's executive order transcends policy reform; it symbolizes a beacon of hope for countless individuals. It aligns seamlessly with G{Code}'s mission to empower underrepresented groups in tech through skill development and mentorship. By focusing on individuals' capabilities rather than their academic qualifications, we are opening doors to a wealth of talent that has been overlooked for far too long. Let's collectively embrace this transformative change and cultivate a more inclusive, skilled, and dynamic workforce in Massachusetts. Businesses and organizations throughout Massa- $Bridgette\ Wallace\ is\ the\ executive\ director\ of\ G\{Code\},$

D.C. delegation writes to Cerberus of concerns about Steward Crisis

All 11 members of the Massachusetts congressional delegation signed onto a letter on Feb. 15 to Cerberus Capital Management, the private equity firm that owned Steward Health Care's hospitals from 2010 until 2021, seeking information amid "growing concerns" about the financial plight Steward now

"We are particularly concerned about the extent to which Cerberus and its affiliates literally stripped out and sold the property from underneath these hospitals, creating hundreds of millions of dollars in profits for private equity executives, while leaving the facilities with long-term liabilities that are magnifying - if not creating - the current crisis,' the delegation wrote.

"We have long been concerned about the nefarious role of private equity in our economy. Ownership by private equity investors increases health care costs and reduces quality of care, and private equity firms have played a role in the collapse of hospitals around the country, hurting communities and the health care workers and other staff that serve them. The dire threat of Steward's collapse appears to be a textbook example of the grave risks posed by a private equity takeover of the health care system.'

The delegation's letter specifically asks Cerberus to provide answers about the firm's investments in Steward and Steward-affiliated entities, liabilities imposed on Steward, and profits, dividends, and total compensation for the firm and its top executives by Feb. 28. The company did not respond to a request for comment from the News Service.

-COLIN A. YOUNG STATE HOUSE NEWS SERVICE

State Senate honors Frederick Douglass by placing a new bust in chamber setting

A hope that people will count him as a 'founding father'of the commonwealth

By Alison Kuznitz State House News Service

Nearly 130 years after abolitionist, orator, and newspaper publisher Frederick Douglass addressed state lawmakers, the Senate unveiled a bust in the branch's chamber honoring his legacy during a ceremony last week.

Senate President Karen Spilka intentionally left two alcoves inside the chamber vacant in her quest to enhance the diverse representation of historical figures in the State House. The other empty alcove will eventually be filled with a bust of a woman, and Spilka has previously floated the idea of selecting Abigail Adams.

"My hope is that people will see the Senate recognizes Frederick Douglass as one of our founding fathers, basically laying a strong foundation, raising issues, fighting for civil justice, for civil rights and that his words and actions still are with us, still have to stay with us," Spilka said an interview with the News Service. "They have to be forefront in our minds when we pass legislation."

Douglass's bust is situated somewhat near the Douglass quote painted on the chamber's tympanum, which states, "Truth, justice, liberty, and humanity will ultimately prevail."

It's the first bust to be added to the Senate Chamber since 1898, as well as the first state-commissioned bust of a Black person in the State House, according to Spilka's office. The Senate commissioned the bust for \$7,000, a Spilka spokesperson said.

"We're just really happy to see Frederick Douglass represented with a bust to go along with his quote," Paula Morse, chair of the State House Art Commission, said. "I think it's just wonderful that we are doing this, that when people come to the State House, from children all the way up to their great-grandparents, [they] can see people that look like them. We can't remake the past but within the past, notable figures like Frederick Douglass belong here."

Douglass's great-great-great grandson said his family was "incredibly humbled" by the artwork.

When Douglass escaped slavery, he settled in New Bedford and spoke about his experiences across the country through the Massachusetts Anti-Slavery Society, according to the National Park Service. His first speech to a mostly white audience happened in August 1841, during an anti-slavery convention held in the Nantucket Atheneum's Great Hall, according to a town document.

During the Civil War, two of Douglass' sons served in the 54th Massachusetts Regiment, according to NPS.

"From New Bedford to Nantucket to Lynn, and many cities and towns in between, Massachusetts is where Frederick Douglass found freedom, raised his young family, and began to realize the power of his story and his voice," Kenneth Morris Jr., president of Frederick Douglass Family Initiatives, said in a statement. "It's also where Douglass found support from many fellow freedom fighters, and where he recruited his sons Charles Remond Douglass and Lewis Henry Douglass to serve in the Massachusetts 54th Infantry Regiment during the Civil War. We hope this bust, displayed in the Senate chamber together with Douglass's words, will inspire all who are united in the quest for social justice, liberty and equality."

Douglass spoke with House and Senate members during a visit to Beacon Hill on May 10, 1894. He previously came to the State House about five decades earlier, according to the Worcester Daily Spy.

"I have appeared before the American people in a number of qualities. Once as a slave, 56 years ago, I was seized with a strong desire to see Massachusetts, and came North with that end in view," Douglass told the House before visiting the Senate, according to the Boston Daily Journal. "Again, I appeared as a fugitive slave and again as an advocate in behalf of the slave."

"He has a lot of very close ties to Massachusetts, so we can call him our own," Spilka said. "And it just feels that is so appropriate and overdue to have him in the Senate Chamber, along with some of the other prominent figures that we have there, as our founding fathers of Washington, and Lincoln, and Franklin and a few others that are in there. He'll have his own resting place very comfortably."

The public event coincided with Douglass's birthday, and Feb. 14 is also recognized as Frederick Douglass Day in Massachusetts as a result of an



On his adopted birthday, freedom fighter Frederick Douglass was honored in the Massachusetts Senate on Feb. 14 by becoming the first person to have their bust installed in the Senate in almost 150 years. Craig Sandler photo



On hand for the Douglass bust unveiling were former State Rep. Marie St. Fleur, Marita Rivero past director of Museum of African American History (MAAH), Dr. Karilyn Crockett, L'Merchie Frazier, Dr. Noelle Trent, the current president & CEO of MAAH, former State Senator Linda Dorcena Forry, and Rev. Mariama White Hammond, Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space in Boston.

amendment to the fiscal year 2020 budget bill first proposed by Sen. Mark Montigny, Spilka's office said.

A different Frederick Douglass bust, loaned by Boston's Museum of African American History, was previously displayed in the Senate Chamber after the space was renovated and reopened in 2019, a Spilka spokesperson said.

The new Douglass bust is a replica of a bust originally created by Massachusetts sculptor Lloyd Lillie and kept by his family, said State House art curator Susan Greendyke Lachevre.

"Their bust in their collection was sent to a foundry, and a mold was made. So it is a true copy of the one that Lloyd Lillie made, and it was cast by the foundry that he always used," she said.

Spilka said she was struck by the dearth of diverse artwork at the state capitol, particularly featuring women and people of color, when she became Senate president.

"We have such a rich history, with women, with people of color and all of the contributions that all people, the diverse people, have made to our wonderful commonwealth," Spilka said. "And it was astounding to me the lack of diversity here."

Spilka said senators will start discussing which woman should be depicted in another new bust during Women's History Month in March.

The State House's limited diverse collection today includes portraits of influential Massachusetts women hanging in Spilka's office, plus portraits of former Gov. Deval Patrick and Chief Justice Roderick Ireland, both of whom are Black. There are also reliefs of Sarah Parker Remond and Josephine St. Pierre Ruffin, two Black female leaders who knew Douglass, in Doric Hall, Greendyke Lachevre said.

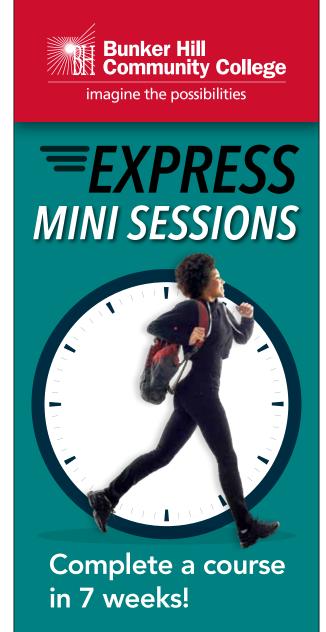
The original Senate busts depict George Washington, Benjamin Franklin, Marquis de Lafayette, Abraham Lincoln, Charles Sumner, Henry Wilson, Gardiner Tufts, George Boutwell and Samuel Francis Smith, according to the State House Art Commission.

The Douglass bust is filling space previously occupied by Boutwell's, Spilka's office said.

Greendyke Lachevre said Douglass belongs with the other distinguished honorees.

"It's a step in the right direction to broaden the representation of the people who are honored in the State House," Greendyke Lachevre said. "We even have this encouragement in our acquisition guidelines that people consider broadening their thoughts and their ideas of who to honor in the building by recognizing underrepresented communities, groups, people in the collection."

State House News Service's Sam Doran contributed to this story.



Mini Session II March 25 – May 15

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Meetings here drive change. Where will you be?



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MASSACHUSETTS CONVENTION CENTER AUTHORITY

BPDA board approves plan for St. Mary's expansion

A plan by St. Mary's Center for Women and Children to expand its footprint on Jones Hill and offer new housing for low-income families won approval from the Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) last Thursday (Feb. 15). The project will include renovations to the facility's existing building, which is housed in the former St. Margaret's Hospital and provides shelter and services to young parents and their children.

St. Mary's officially filed its letter of intent with city officials last year and the project has been under BPDA's



A rendering shows a proposed new building on the Jones Hill campus of St. Mary's Center for Women and Children.

Article 80 review process in recent months. It includes the demolition of an existing parking garage and another building on the campus to clear the way for a new building that will create 71 new income-restricted housing units for low-income families.

Operations at St. Mary's will continue throughout the project, which is expected to create 177 construction jobs.

- REPORTER STAFF

Revised Aspinwall proposal given a key approval by BPDA

The Boston Planning and Development Agency (BPDA) board has approved a revision to an already-approved project at 3 Aspinwall Rd. in Dorchester that will add 11 additional units and a fifth floor to the building.

The development team behind what was originally a 4-story, 34-unit condo building near Codman Square that received the city's permission to proceed back in 2019 filed an amended plan last September.

The developer, Solmon Chowdury of Shanti Acquisition, sought the additional units because he was "unable to close the necessary funding to advance the project," blaming "considerable instability in the market and exceedingly high construction pricing," according to his attorney, Mike Ross.



The revised proposal for 3 Aspinwall Rd. *McDougal Architects*, *Inc. image*.

The mix of units includes 4 studios, 22 one-bedroom units, and 19 two-bedroom units on the site of the former Nelson Manor nursing home, which has sat vacant since 1995. The revised plan includes 29 vehicle parking spaces in a garage, which will also provide 60 spots for bicycles.

- REPORTER STAFF

In sweeping case, US charges dozens tied to Jamaica Plain gang

By Anthony Brooks WBUR

Following a two-year investigation into gang violence in Boston, more than 40 members and associates of the Heath Street gang were charged last week in federal court with racketeering conspiracy, drug trafficking, firearms violations, and financial fraud.

The charges are part of a sweeping federal Racketeer Influenced and Corrupt Organizations (RICO) case involving alleged members of the Heath Street gang that which has been active for decades around the Mildred C. Hailey apartments, previously known as the Bromley Heath Public Housing Development, in Boston's Jamaica Plain neighborhood.

Nearly two dozen members or associates of the gang were arrested last Wednesday morning, according to Acting US Attorney for Massachusetts Joshua S. Levy. Law enforcement officials also seized more than 60 firearms.

Levy said several other suspects already in state and federal custody were charged with new federal offenses. The defendants were allegedly involved in multiple murders, attempted murders, and shootings.

"Some of those shootings left innocent victims in the crossfire, including a nine-year-old girl who was severely injured attending a family gathering," Levy said.

Although the number of shootings in Boston has been declining recently, Levy said that these charges make it clear that parts of the city remain in the grip of violent criminals.

"If you live in a com-

munity that's threatened with violence on a daily basis the city-wide numbers don't mean nearly as much," Levy said.

Some of those charged allegedly bragged about their crimes on social media and in texts, according to Levy, and some were armed with fully automatic weapons.

According to the indictment, suspects produced music videos in which they referenced the murders they committed. Levy said one of their videos allegedly mentioned their victims, saying, "I can say the names, but

it might make the feds come for us."

Levy, in announcing the charges to the press, said: "Well, the feds have come for you."

The suspects allegedly relied on juveniles to help facilitate many of their crimes, pressuring them to work as lookouts, gun and drug holders, and, in some cases, even participating in shooting attacks.

"These bad actors that we targeted today took advantage of young people," Boston Police Commissioner Michael Cox said. "They used fear, intimidation, and violence" for personal gain.

According to the charging documents, Heath Street gang members and their associates have used the Mildred C. Hailey Apartments for drug trafficking activities and, over a period of years, established distribution networks throughout Massachusetts, Maine, and California.

The case further alleges the Heath Street gang committed theft and financial crimes.



Make your community your business

The Massachusetts Cannabis Control Commission's Social Equity Program (SEP) is a free, statewide technical assistance and training program that creates pathways into the legal cannabis industry for individuals most impacted by the War on Drugs.

To learn more about the Commonwealth's equity programming, visit masscannabiscontrol.com/equity

Tracking the 'Long Black Freedom' struggle in Boston

the violence and division eclipsed. His intent, as he put it, was a book in which "Black agency and activism take center stage, situating the busing program as the culmination of nearly three decades of consistent political organizing by Black Bostonians."

Miletsky's clock starts ticking purposefully in the late 1700s, with Prince Hall, the Black leader in Boston who fought in the War of Independence and founded the first Black masonic lodge. Despite the universal education requirement in Massachusetts dating to 1642, many Black students were denied admission to Boston's taxpayer-supported public schools. Hall and other Black parents tried to overcome the barrier through unsuccessful appeals to the Legislature and the Boston School Committee.

In response to those setbacks, Hall opened a school for Black students in the home of his son, which would expand in 1806 into a classroom at the African Meeting House on Beacon Hill. As Miletsky frames it, this was the beginning of a pattern of white exclusion and Black initiative that would play out more than a century-and-a-

(Continued from page 1) half later in Boston's would seek an alternative "freedom schools." Nor was Prince Hall the last Black parent to pursue educational justice by going outside Boston's public schools.

"Before Busing" also explores evolving ideas of what Boston's Black community wanted from education. By the end of the 19th century, there was broad support, even by many relatively progressive leaders, for separate educational tracks, as with the technical schools espoused and developed by Booker T. Washington. The educational principle would be enshrined in the "separate-but-equal" ruling by the US Supreme Court in 1896.

Washington would lat $er\,be\,challenged\,at\,a\,1903$ confrontation in Boston by William Monroe Trotter, a Harvard-educated activist and publisher who moved to Dorchester's Jones Hill in 1899. Trotter believed that Black students should not be confined to a separate track, which often turned out – in practice, if not by design -to be inferior. As sociologists would later conclude, the boundaries of tracking can be internalized in a way that cramps student achievement.

Sixty years later, Black parents and activists to lower expectations by setting up independent schools, with more Black models of achievement. If few white students could match the achievement of the most illustrious white models, the problem for Black students in the public schools was the invisibility of Black models, compounded by a scarcity of Black educators.

In the decade before 1974, Miletsky highlights the community organizing and its overlap with the Civil Rights Movement. If the goal in Boston's schools was equality, as in building conditions and instruction materials, it was also about developing a new definition of learning that could help students thrive. Most importantly, Miletsky makes the Black leadership visible and names the names including Ruth Batson, Tom Atkins, Mel King, Muriel Snowden, Hubie Jones, and Jean McGuire.

The educational inequality the leaders tried to address was documented in 1965 by a state commission and, as early as 1944, in a study for the Boston Finance Commission. Long before the federal lawsuit filed by Black parents in 1972, the community was staging one-day boycotts,

organizing alternative members attributed raschools, and providing alternatives to segregated schools that were overcrowded and inferior.

As Miletsky shows, the community wanted equal access to quality of education, with demographics and location being a means to an end. But he also shows how the nature of the "dual system" that Garrity confirmed in the city's public schools extended to other realms in Boston, especially housing and employment opportunities. And Miletsky factors in the less formal boundaries and clockwork of turf to demonstrate that Boston's racial divide had a consistency and structure that became, in some ways, even worse during the early 20th century.

In the first decades after mid-century, the main agents responsible for educational barriers were members of the all-white School Committee. It's impossible to prove that a more responsive body would have done enough to avoid the level of coercion and disruption that came with "busing." It's also impossible to deny that Black leaders sought more incremental changes, only to be rebuffed by School Committee members who stubbornly denied de facto segregation.

Instead, committee

cial imbalance in the schools to demographics and discriminatory housing patterns, but that failed to explain why an assignment process concentrated so many Black students in overcrowded schools while excluding them from predominantly white schools, sometimes within the radius of a neighborhood.

One reason for the intransigence was the city's switch to an all at-large system of local elections. Adopted in 1949, the change was supposed to replace a supposedly more insular and fractious politics of neighborhoods with the broader aspirations of the "New Boston." Instead, the resulting (and unsurprising) dearth of Black officeholders forced under-represented communities (and their growing numbers) to advance their agendas through other channels. There would be no Black member of the School Committee between 1951 and 1978, and only one Black member of the City Council, Tom Atkins, who was elected in 1967.

This electoral imbalance stunted the city's ability to speak about its problems in a common political idiom. It was too easy for people who were politically invisible to be trivialized, marginalized or, in pre-election pandering, demonized. Even if white voters, as was often the case, did not have children in the Boston Public Schools, white elected officials could stoke their anxieties over property values and public safety. As another historian, James P. Formisano, pointed out, the politicians were raising the specter of mandatory busing a full decade before it was materialized by a court order.

In the widely acclaimed 1985 book, "Common Ground" by J. Anthony Lukas, Boston's conflict over desegregation is portrayed mainly in personal terms. Parts of his story are centered around the distressed Black family headed by Rachel L. Twymon, and working-class whites presented as victims of elites. Miletsky argues that the gain in intimacy comes with a loss of perspective, downplaying the larger history of racial inequality and the role of organized violent resistance by whites that would later be highlighted in Formisano's 1991 book, "Boston Against Busing."

Miletsky even sheds a critical light on Lukas's portrayal of the Twymon family, which included a daughter, Rachel L.



Celebrating Boston's rich and vibrant Black history, this month and every day.

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The year 2024 marks fifty years since a federal court order was issued by US Judge W. Arthur Garrity mandating school desegregation in Boston which resulted in busing. While that decision sent shockwaves through Boston and riveted the country with images of yellow school buses rolling up the hills of South Boston -being met by angry residents shouting racial epitaphs and throwing rocks – what often gets lost in the telling of the story is the years of effective and creative organizing on the part of Black Bostonians who were driven by the simple desire to give their children a shot at a quality education in the Boston Public schools, and consequently, a shot at a better life.



Zebulon Miletsky

I wrote "Before Busing" because it seemed to me that many Bostonians simply suffer from an incomplete story. Perhaps what was needed was a new narrative about busing. So, here's my version.

In 1972, fourteen African American parents and forty-four children in Boston found the courage to file a lawsuit – with the help of the National Association

for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) against the City of Boston in federal district court contesting school segregation. Enlisting the help of attorneys from the Harvard University Center for Law and Education (including a young Tom Atkins, who was a student at Harvard Law School at the time), they sued the city's school committee, arguing that Boston was maintaining two separate school systems. The civil lawsuit, which resulted in a victory for the plaintiffs in federal court in June of 1974, necessitated a remedy by law. The remedy would be the use of school buses to desegregate the Boston Public Schools.

This is a much different narrative from the one that has dominated over the last fifty years. That

Why I wrote 'Before Busing'

By Zebulon Miletsky SPECIAL TO THE REPORTER

this was a unilateral decision, which felt more like an edict to some, from a power-hungry federal judge who didn't live in Boston and whose own children attended schools in Wellesley, is how many Bostonians remember the decision to implement busing. In this case, however, the source of pain and strife that appeared to come from "out of the blue" was actually initiated by a legitimately aggrieved group of parents and children who had been treated unjustly.

Like all Bostonians, these parents were entitled to a quality education for their children from its public school system – a constitutional right – something which they had been denied. The federal court was literally, as Tom Atkins called it, "the court of last resort." In the case of an absolutely defiant and intransigent school committee, after almost nine years of protest - the founding of Freedom Schools, Black independent schools, Operation Exodus, METCO, and many other creative ways of gaining a better education for their beloved children - the somewhat reluctant plaintiffs agreed to file suit against the school committee.

The trial took two years to decide. It was called Morgan v. Hennigan, named for the lead plaintiff, Tallulah Morgan, and the president of the Boston School Committee at the time, James Hennigan, charging discrimination in school assignments; staffing; and allocation of resources, facilities, and transportation.

I have always had a problem with the word "anniversary" when applied to busing. After all, what's the use of calling something an anniversary that no one really wants to celebrate?

But perhaps if people knew what brought about the court order in the first place, I reasoned – the years of organizing that led up to busing, the long Black freedom struggle and the many Black contributions that played a role in making Boston what it became we might have a better understanding of it, and, therefore, be able to find healing from it.

One of the questions that needs to be asked is whether Boston is a better city for having undergone school desegregation. By lancing the boil of racism, has Boston thrived from dealing with its racial problems? Thrived financially? Socially? Morally? Come closer to living up to the way most Americans see Boston, as a "City Upon a Hill?" If that is the case, then why is so little known about the courageous men, women, and children who saw a better future for Boston, and set about to bring it to fruition? Why do so few people know about the lawsuit, and the struggle itself, which brought about a more racially equitable city? Today it is commonplace for African Americans to live in any neighborhood in Boston. That was not the case during the years of school desegregation. This is why I wrote "Before Busing."

Busing in Boston is a big topic. It requires an understanding of law, education policy, the history of race in America, the history of White ethnicity in America, particularly Irish American history, and how whiteness is formed. Luckily for me, these are all things that are taught in African American Studies, in which I received a Ph.D from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst in 2008. I wanted to triangulate all these fields of knowledge to tell a more accurate story of what led up to busing. It took many years to acquire this information. Years of looking, learning, listening patiently - and a lot of transcribing. Reading, and most of all, a close study of African American History. It also requires some psychology. Trying to understand the foibles of being human, and our sometimes-quirky way of doing things. Because none of us are perfect, but we are trying. And so is

Zebulon V. Miletsky, Ph.D. is an associate professor in the Department of Africana Studies & History at Stony Brook University in New York.

Twymon, who became pregnant after a sexual assault and give birth at age 13. Miletsky picked up the narrative thread more than forty years later, after Rachel's reunion with her biological son who was adopted by another family, former Boston City Councillor Tito Jackson.

In an interview with Miletsky, Jackson faulted Lukas for portraying a family's dysfunction without considering the failures around it, especially by the school system and the community. "I think the characterization of the family was really harmful," Jackson contended, "and I think the most harmful part was [Lukas] dealt with little Rachel's pregnancy and my birth on one paragraph. And I was gone from the rest of the

If "desegregation" signifies a community movement in Boston overlapping with the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960s, the timeline of "Before Busing" stops short of the controversial remedies ordered by Judge Garrity. And even those, as Miletsky acknowledges, were constrained by other factors, including the 1974 US Supreme Court decision that would effectively keep Boston's mandatory desegregation plan from extending beyond city limits.

By some measures, Boston's experience with "busing" can be graded as a failure. In the long term, the intervention did not eliminate a sizable and persistent racial gap in achievement in the district public schools. Nor did it, for the most part, turn a rigidly segregated student body into a sustainable mix that proportionately reflected the city's overall schoolage population.

As a 2020 report for The Boston Foundation summarized, "We find that Boston's schools got significantly more integrated during the period of mandatory school desegregation in the '70s and '80s, but that this progress has stalled since 2000. On some measures, our schools have actually gotten more segregated in recent years, both by race and by income."

Judging from enroll-

ment figures and census data, it's hard to deny that "busing" accelerated white flight, even though many white families in Boston had long preferred sending their children to parochial schools. Between 1970 and 1980, the city's population loss swelled by almost 13 percent, after having declined to 8 percent in the previous decade. But the absolute number and percentage lost between 1970 and 1980 were both exceeded twenty years earlier.

In the decade before "busing," many of Boston's Black parents

pursued better education for their children through open enrollment in Operation Exodus and METCO, the voluntary desegregation program, originally between the city and suburban communities. Decades later, some would continue to put their hopes in METCO or explore other options, whether moving out of the city or enrolling their children in public charter and Catholic

But Miletsky's focus on Boston's desegregation movement makes it easier to see connections with later educational campaigns, including those for Latino and Asian students, and students with learning disabilities. It can even be argued that the efforts of the Black community before busing inspired new forms of parental engagement and power that were incubated by the desegregation movement.

Many of the community leaders concerned with schools in the 1960s and 1970s would go on

to apply their activism to other causes, from jobs for Boston residents to electoral diversity through district representation, or through changing the complexion of Boston politics as candidates and elected officials. If Miletsky's history is confined to a long "before," the desegregation movement itself had an afterlife, with a legacy outlasting court intervention and extending beyond the Boston Public Schools.

LEGAL NOTICES

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT Suffolk Probate & Family Court 24 New Chardon Street Boston, MA 02114 (617) 788-8300 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION Docket No. SU24P0206EA ESTATE OF: DATE OF DEATH: 08/29/1998

been filed by Mazzarine Garner of Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relie as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Mazzarine Garner of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of **03/12/2024**.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadlin

by which you must file a written appearance nd objection if you object to this proceeding If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without

unther notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION
UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS
UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) ersonal Representative appointed unde the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annua is not required to file an inventory of a initial accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court

n any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of lministration. Witness, HON, BRIAN J. DUNN, First

stice of this Court. Date: January 30, 2024 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate Published: February 22, 2024

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
Suffolk Probate & Family Court
24 New Chardon Street
Boston, MA 02114
(617) 788-8300
CITATION ON PETITION FOR
FORMAL ADJUDICATION
DOCKET NO. S1123P24F0FA Docket No. SU23P2459EA
ESTATE OF:
STEPHANIE DENISE CASTRO a/k/a: STEPHANIE CASTRO DATE OF DEATH: 08/06/2023

A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Pedro A. Castro of Boston has been filed by Pedro A. Castro of Boston, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition. The Petitioner requests that: Pedro A. Castro of Boston, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the IMPORTANT NOTICE

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the
Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court.
You have a right to object to this proceeding.
To do so, you or your attorney must file a
written appearance and objection at this
Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day
of 03/06/204 f 03/06/2024.

his is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by mis is NoT a nearing date, but acedumie by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further nestice Journal to take not without further nestice. nay be taken without further notice to you UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS

UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC) A Personal Representative appointed unde the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annua accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding he administration directly from the Persona Representative and may petition the Cour n any matter relating to the estate, including he distribution of assets and expenses of

dministration. Witness, HON, BRIAN J. DUNN, First stice of this Court.
Date: January 31, 2024
Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.
Register of Probate

Published: February 22, 2024

schools. COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK PROBATE & FAMILY COURT 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 CITATION GIVING NOTICE

FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON
PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304
Docket No. SU24P0273GD
IN THE MATTER OF:
ZBIGMIEW CZUBINSKI
of DORCHESTER, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person
To the named Respondent and all
other interested persons. a petition has other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Boston Medical Center of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Zbigniew Czubinski is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Daria Butcher of Roslindale, MA (or some othe suitable person) be appointed as Guardia

APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON

to serve Without Surety on the bond. The petition asks the Court to determin that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is neces sary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you o this court on or before 10:00 A M on th urn date of 03/07/2024. This day is NO a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance you object to the petition. If you fail to file he written appearance by the return date action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objectio vithin 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the ight to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may mak his request on behalf of the above-name . If the above-named person canno afford a lawyer, one may be appointed a

State expense. Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court. Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.

Register of Probate
Date: February 8, 2024 Published: February 22, 2024

LEGAL NOTICES COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK PROBATE & FAMILY COURT 24 NEW CHARDON STREET 24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
CITATION GIVING NOTICE
OF PETITION FOR
APPOINTMENT OF CONSERVATOR
OR OTHER PROTECTIVE ORDER
PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B,
\$5-304 & \$5-405
Docket No. SU24P0338PM
IN THE MATTER OF:
ERWIN ILANO
of BOSTON, MA
RESPONDENT

Person to be Protected/Minor To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Brigham and Women's Hospital of Boston, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Erwin Ilano is in need of a Conservator or other protective order and requesting that Brian McCaffrey of Boston MA; Esther Valdez of Needham Heights MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Conservator to serve Withou Surety on the bond.

petition asks the Court to determin that the Respondent is disabled, that protective order or appointment of a Cor servator is necessary, and that the propose conservator is appropriate. The petition is or

file with this court. The with this court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 03/15/2024. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the netition. you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date action may be taken in this matter withou further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written afficiavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 20 days after the peture date.

30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this reques on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawye one may be appointed at State expense. Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice

of this Court. Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate Date: February 16, 2024 Published: February 22, 2024

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK PROBATE & FAMILY COURT 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR OF PETITION FOR
APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN
FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON
PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304
Docket No. SU24P0336GD
IN THE MATTER OF:
ERWIN ILANO
of BOSTON, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person
To the named Respondent and all other
interested persons, a petition has been
filed by Brigham and Women's Hospital
of Boston, MA in the above captioned
matter alleging that Erwin Ilano is in need

matter alleging that Erwin Ilano is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Brian of a Guardian and requesting that Briar McCaffrey of Boston, MA; Esther Valdez of Needham Heights, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve Without Surety on the bond.

The petition asks the Court to determine

that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is neces-sary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this

proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 03/15/2024. This day is NOT return date or U3/13/2U24. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date action may be taken in this matter without without protection. Under the profession of the period of th urther notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

IMPORTAIN NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or footh. The above-named person has the statement of the control of the con right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named

this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. Brian J. Dunn, First Justice of this Court.

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq.

Register of Probate Date: February 16, 2024

Published: February 22, 2024

BHA helping tenants become first-time buyers

(Continued from page 1) er Boston," said Ryan. Smith. "It was exactly what I was looking for. It checked off all the boxes of what someone could want in their first home," said Smith, who received the keys to her new home on Feb. 2.

Megan Ryan, the BHA's director of homeownership and mobility grant programs, said the initiative is one part of Mayor Wu's attempt to halt displacement of longtime city residents from the neighborhoods.

"With rising home prices in every neighborhood, a lot of people feel like their only option to buy a home is outside of Great-

"Families and neighborhoods are changing because of gentrification. Life-long residents of Dorchester and Mattapan are being driven out. They're not able to afford to buy within the community without assistance programs."

She added: "Given these conditions, the city $% \left(-1\right) =\left(-1\right) \left(-1\right$ recognized that a down payment is critical, and given that our tenants are generally starting around an even lower household income [Average Median Income] level, they need even more assistance to be able to bridge the gap in affordability. So, they



Jennifer Torres in front of the three-decker in the Bowdoin-Geneva area housing the condo unit.

Seth Daniel photo

are granting \$75,000 for our tenants to buy a home in the city of Boston."

Smith, who was born and raised in Dorchester, sees the program as a corrective one in a city with a notorious history of redlining Black people. "With the history of Black people owning homes, there were things set up systematically where people weren't able to get homes and loans," said Smith. "There was a lot of gatekeeping and blocking and so this right here is a step forward in equality as well."

The program that Smith tapped into targets Section 8 holders and uses federal funds for the down payment. The city of Boston has created a second vehicle— known as the Citywide Voucher

gram— that uses city funds to assist BHA residents seeking to make the same transition. In this model, the BHA partners with the Mayor's Office of Housing and invites approved partner agencies to refer first-generation homebuyers to participate in a lottery program. Winners are given a monthly subsidy to put toward a mortgage.

Homeownership pro-

Jennifer Torres, 42, who was born in Puerto Rico but has lived in Boston for more than two decades, is going through the process now and hopes to close on her first home at the end of the month.

"After they sent the email that everything was approved, I started looking. I found a realtor agent and we went to this place, and it was amazing," Torres said about the condo in the Bowdoin-Geneva area. "It was everything I was looking for and we made an offer, and they accepted the same day.

The mother of three added: "Growing up I didn't have a place I could say was my house or if anything happened to me, I never had a place to go back to. For me, it's really important that if anything were to happen to me and my kids, no matter how old they are, they always have a place to go back. We are so excited."

Ryan hopes that this year the two programs will double the total number of participants.

"BHA houses about 10 percent of the city of Boston population, so we are one of the largest housing providers and the sixth largest housing authority in the nation," said Ryan. "Since we launched the first home program over the past year, we are now tracking toward 41 firsttime homeowners."

For more information regarding these programs visit bostonhousing.org. Descriptions of the programs, eligibility criteria, and applications can all be found under the "For Applicants" tab. BHA can also be reached at 617-988-4000 or in person at 52 Chauncy St., Boston.



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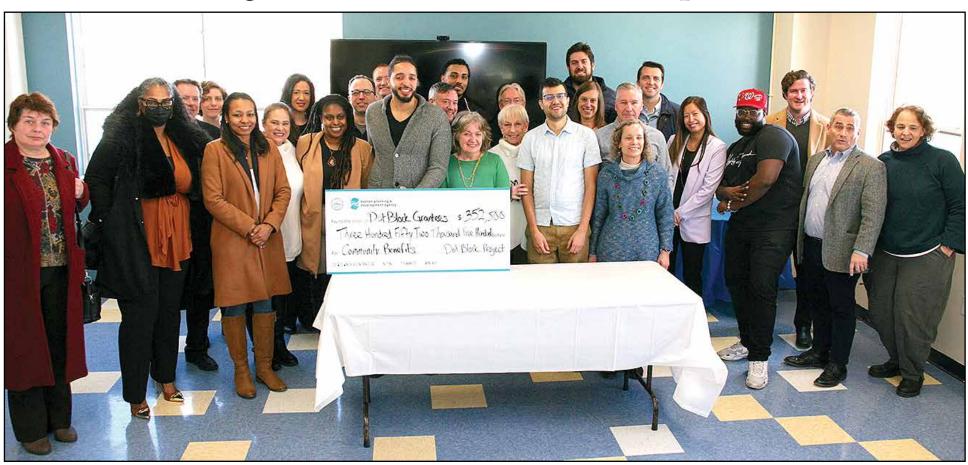
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Local Real Estate Transactions

Seller **Address** Buyer **Date Price** Turley, Donna M 412-414 Norfolk St Pete LLC 02/02/24 \$830,000 Dorchester Velis-Diaz, Matia T Velis, Brenda J Brown, Cynthia M Brown, Owen 117 Hancock St Dorchester 02/02/24 950,000 Velis-Diaz, Maria T 117 Hancock St 950,000 Velis, Brenda J Brown, Cynthia M Dorchester 02/01/24 62 Charlotte St LLC Hazel M Stevens RET Suggs, Rena S 62 Charlotte St 01/30/24 1,150,000 Dorchester 12 Capen LLC Freedom Cap Solutions LLC 12 Capen St Dorchester 02/01/24 655..000 Mclaughlin, Donna M A&m Boston Re LLC 72 Belden St 01/29/24 750.000 Samuel J Ciarmataro T Dorchester 69 Wilmington Ave 69 Wilmington Ve Nt 02/02/24 650,000 Rice, Keanna Taylor, Gary L Dorchester Morrissey Blvd 121a Lp Bay Colony Associates LLC 944 William T Morrissey Blvd Dorchester 01/31/24 21,250,000 Lino-Kelly, Regis Kelly, Norda 86-88 Bernard LLC 86 Bernard St #88 Dorchester 01/31/24 560,000 Kickery, Scott Rodrigues, Catarina 19-1 Moseley St LLC 19-21 Moseley St #2 02/01/24 991,025 Dorchester 26 Speedwell LLC Mahan, Daniel J Haupt, Kyler J 26 Speedwell St #1 Dorchester 02/01/24 600.000 Cunnigham, Emily Todesco, Cristina M 1241-1251 Adams St #F10 Dorchester 02/02/24 366.931 Roberts, Kristina J 48 Boutwell St #2 Roberts, Derek Kelly, Brian P Oregan, Samantha E Dorchester 02/02/24 910,000 Kersey, Philisha Kersey, Naivelly Gladness Builder LLC 148 Fabyan St #3 Dorchester 499,900

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Dot Block's mitigation dollars boost local non-profits' dreams



Members of the development team, the BPDA, and the community gathered at the Boys and Girls Clubs of Dorchester last Friday to celebrate the more-than \$350,000 in grants given from the Dot Block community fund to 16 organizations at the Boys and Girls Club of Dorchester. Seth Daniel photo

(Continued from page 1) okay for other develop-\$35,000 grant to support its arts programming for youth-known as the Arts Triple Play as it focuses on fine art, music, and film. The intent is to provide full access to the arts and bridge any gaps in the curriculum.

Abe Menzin, executive vice president at Samuels & Associates, said the organizations that were chosen are "a key part of keeping the

community vibrant and welcoming. We are proud that so many impactful organizations will benefit from our donation and appreciate the BP-DA's continued focus on connecting major business and property owners in the neighborhood with important community partners."

Former City Councillor $Frank\,Baker, who\,helped$ review the large project as it was planned during his time in office, was on hand to congratulate the grant winners.

"This was probably our first and longest project and it put Dorchester on the map," Baker said. "This project made it ers and money people to come in and look at Dorchester as a place to spend their money. We also let them know we are a community, and we'll work with you, but we need benefits packages for our organizations.'

Added current District 3 Councillor John Fitz-Gerald: "We need to make sure in all these developments that Dorchester gets its fair share. People are making big money in the neighborhood, and we will make sure Dorchester gets its share."

Several of the non-profits – such as the Irish Pastoral Centre (IPC) in Adams Village – shared their intent for the monev. Mary Swanton, IPC's director, noted that it was formed in the 1980s to welcome and help many Irish immigrants coming to Boston. Now, they look to give the same warm welcome to all immigrants that they got when they came years ago. She said their portion of the money will be used to expand the walkin social work and case

management program they operate, noting that the grant was a first for them to get city funding.

'You're the first people to open the doors of City Hall to us," she said. "This program will expand our social work program. We are so grateful you have said you want to help our organization and that we're worthy of support."

Boston Collegiate Charter School noted funding would be used by their growing sports program.

"This money will help us with the reality of having to have buses to take our teams 15 minutes away to our own home games," said a representative of the school. "The money is a huge benefit to our student athletes.'

Candace Gartley, the executive director of the All Dorchester Sports and Leadership (ADSL) program said the funds will allow the Fields Corner-based youth sports and wellness group to

"This gift from Dot Block allowed me to hire three more people,

said Gartley. "It makes a difference because we're still growing."

Artists for Humanity director Anna Yu said more than one-third of their participants are from Dorchester. "We're going to use this money to bring an activation to Dorchester that will actually be able to show our students' work in Dorchester," she said.

"Their artwork will be presented in the community where our teens are from."

The 16 awardees included: Youth Enrichment Services (YES), White Snake Projects, Teen Center at St. Peters, Catholic Charities, Speak for the Trees, Somali Development Center, Louis D. Brown Peace Institute, Irish Pastoral Centre,

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Fresh Food Generation, Dorchester Bay Economic Development Corporation, Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester, Boston Little Saigon, Boston Food Forest Coalition, Artists for Humanity, Action for Boston Community Development (ABCD), ADSL, and Boston Collegiate Charter School Foundation.





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THE REPORTER **February 22, 2024** Page 18 dotnews.com

Neighborhood House Charter School teachers to form union backed by Boston Teachers Union

By SETH DANIEL **News Editor**

Educators at Neighborhood House Charter School (NHCS) in Dorchester have voted to unionize their workforce and align with the

Boston Teachers Union. The union will include teachers, social workers, $speech \, language \, patholo$ gists, occupational therapists, school psychologists, custodians, office staff, dining hall workers,

paraprofessionals, and others.

Long-time elementary teacher Kate Chisholm said unionizing will give the staff a voice they haven't had before to negotiate with administrators



Educators from NHCS in Dorchester celebrate after voting to form a union backed by the Boston Teachers Union last week. The Dorchester charter will be one of the few unionized charters in the city.

Photo courtesy Boston Teachers Union

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on a contract that spells out work conditions and

pay.
"I think organizing will give staff a sense of security – knowing that we have representation, that we have people they can come to and ask questions," said Chisholm. "I think just having a contract where we all have a voice in what's being put into that contract would be extremely powerful, because we don't have that right now.

"I think that would be a really powerful thing for all of us to come together to think about what we need as a team to be successful but also for our students to be successful."

Charter schools, particularly in Boston, have traditionally made a selling point of being outside of the teacher's union. The 800-student NHCS, which was founded in 1995, is one of the oldest charter schools in the city, so unionizing the school $community-roughly\,100$ employees- is a significant change.

"We are very proud to be standing with the educators at Neighborhood House to support their efforts to build a better future for students and staff at the school," said BTU President Jessica Tang. "We are thrilled to wel $come\ NHCS\ educators\ to$ the BTU family and look forward to supporting their students and families as well."

NHCS leadership said in a statement that it was notified by the BTU that teachers had petitioned the state Department of Labor Relations (DLR) to certify two collective bargaining units.

"As educators committed to the well-being and success of our students, we understand and respect the right of our teachers and staff to organize and advocate for their interests and needs," read the statement. "We remain committed to advancing the mission of the school, continuing to provide high-quality education for our scholars, and meeting the needs of our teachers and staff."

In the petition delivered to management from educators, it read: "After years of being shut out, we have organized for a voice on the job." It also said educators are committed to making the school a model of education in Boston "once again.'

The educators and the

NHCS administration will now work via the BTU to achieve a contract agreement that will spell out working conditions and pay.

Dorchester and Boston charter schools have historically been difficult for the BTU to organize, with only City on a Hill Charter in Roxbury and Somerville becoming unionized in recent years. However, that school announced recently that it will be closing next year. Conservatory Lab Charter in Uphams Corner did unionize in the past, but the union was later voted out.

Boston charters and BPS had a rocky relationship for many years until a compact was drawn up by former mayor Tom Menino late in his tenure that was successful in sharing education models and allowing charters to lease unused BPS school buildings.

That collaboration, however, was eroded in a contentious state ballot question in 2016 that would have allowed charters to expand in Boston. Arobust'No on 2' campaign led by the BTU and charter opponents was not well-received in the charter community. It left the compact on ice ever since.

The BTU represents more than 10,000 active and retired educators in the Boston Public Schools.

ENROLLMENT FOR SEPTEMBER 2024 IS NOW OPEN **Application Deadline is February 29th**

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Students in the News

A large contingent of students from Dorchester and Mattapan students were named to the dean's list at the University of Massachusetts Amherst for the fall semester.

Dorchester: Ativah Amelia Adams, Oluwadamilola Temitayo Adeyinka, Stanley Tien Bach, Abidjalyn Blanc, Drequan P Bozeman, Trinity Kim Bui, Oscar Frederic Burke, Brendan John Cadogan, Chloe Rae Carver, Ivanna Stacey Castro

Charlton James Clough, Desmond Ray Connelly-Zackular, Brian Dang, Alvin Dennery, Diana Tran Diep, Andy Duong, Matthew John Flagg, Angelica Faith Greaves, Aamaya Nayelize Guzman, Dashiel Patrick Hamilton.

Victoria Huynh, Kimora Donya James, Praize S Johnson, Dylan Francis LaMonica, Yaliah Ivette Lezeau, Jai Allen Mathis, Yaderiz Marie Mendez Bacerra, Alexander Francis Minehan, Christopher

Mattapan: Elisabeth Fils-Aime, Nael Dearborn Louis, Jr., Zahriana Newson Gadsden, Wuraola Peace Ogungbemi, Ashley Petion, Liann Nwakaku Taylor, and Cliff Kenyon Virgile, Jr.

dotnews.com February 22, 2024 THE REPORTER Page 19



BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF DORCHESTER

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BGCD Receives Autism Community Impact Grant from Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation: See details below.

CONNECT THE DOT: **BGCD Receives Autism Community** Impact Grant from Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation: Boys & Girls Clubs of

Dorchester is pleased to announce we have received a grant from the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism. This grant will help to fund our Project BIND (Boston Inclusion Network for Disabilities) Program, BGCD's award-winning initiative to foster full inclusion programming for children of all abilities, including many children with autism, into programs organization wide. Project BIND is not a single program or activity; it is a core value that informs the Club's programs, guides the staff, and supports youth and families. BGCD is focused on prioritizing ways to create an environment where every child can participate. Thank you so much to the Doug Flutie Jr. Foundation for Autism for your generous support of BGCD!

FIND OUT WHAT'S INSIDE: BGCD School Age Members Create & Host Puppet Show: Boys & Girls Clubs of Dorchester's Licensed School Age Care program recently curated and hosted a Puppet Show with our children in the program. It was well attended by fellow members and program staff who wanted to support their efforts. The members worked hard preparing for the show by creating their puppets and rehearsing their lines for the show. Congratulations to the members who took part in this fun and creative show! Our School Age Program is a highly structured and supervised program that offers a variety of developmentally appropriate activities within a designated safe and nurturing environment.

For information on the Licensed School Age Care program at BGCD, please contact Jocelyn Sammy at jsammy@ bgcdorchester.org.



BGCD School Age Members Create & Host Puppet Show: See details

DIDYOU KNOW: New England Women's Leadership Awards (NEWLA): BGCD will host this year's New England Women's Leadership Awards (NEWLA) at the Seaport Hotel, Boston on May 20, 2024! The event is a celebration of the remarkable achievements and contributions of women in our region. We use this platform to foster collaboration, mentorship, and the advancement of women as well as provide positive mentors and role models for our youth at BGCD. This year's theme is "Inspire Excellence" which we strive to do each and every day at our Clubs through our programming and partnerships. If you or your company would like to become a sponsor, please contact Patty Lamb at plamb@ bgcdorchester.org. Sponsorship info can also be found at www. bgcdorchester.org/newla. Make sure to look out for our 2024 honoree announcement soon!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Elevate Youth Cross-Country Skiing February 23rd
*Pre-registration required

Black History Month Living Museum @ Walter Denney Youth Center February 29

Winter Dance Showcase March 8

Youth of the Year Program March 13

Walter Denney Welcome Wednesday @ Harbor Point March 20

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Seniors treated to Valentine's Day luncheon at Prince Hall

Prince Hall was flush in a sea of red sweaters, shirts, and hats, with sides of dancing and healthy helpings of socializing as hundreds of seniors from Dorchester and Mattapan gathered last Friday (Feb. 16) in Grove Hall for the first annual Senior Citizen Valentine's Day Lunger

cheor

Sponsored by District 4 Councillor Brian Worrell and state Rep. Chris Worrell, who wanted to give back and thought the best way was to break bread with neighbors, the afternoon started with coach bus transportation from the neighborhood to Prince Hall There

senior residents caught up with one another and visited with friends from other parts of Dorchester and Mattapan while others took to the dance floor for the "Electric Slide" and other dancing. A catered lunch capped off the afternoon.

SETH DANIEL



From Four Corners, Rev. Birlton Levy with Jeannette Adams and Francine



The Talbot-Bernard Seniors were in attendance, with Pamela Couddle, Maria Rodrigues, and Enogilma Rodrigues.



Linda Seams, Ann Luster, and Adrian Shepherd, of the Reggie Lewis Sensational Seniors



The best dancers in the house let loose prior to the luncheon. Here, Bettye Hicks, 88, and Dennis Jackson, 76, don't hold back on their moves.



Rev. Francisco Tolentino, of the Apostolic Church of God for all People, said the blessing prior to lunch being served.



Councillor Brian Worrell (speaking) and state Rep. Chris Worrell hosted the Senior Valentine's Day luncheon.



Geraldine Jamison and Yvonne Beckford enjoyed the luncheon.



State Rep. Chris Worrell and Pearlita Gilpin.



Seniors from the Mildred Avenue Seniors made a big showing at the event in noting that this month is their one-year anniversary of forming. B-3 Community Service Officer Derek Green, Beatrice Owens, Barbara Crichlow, Lynnette Sumpter, B-3 Community Service Officer Allan Kelley, and Officer William Chen.



Willa Mae Burnett, Valerie Worrell, and Lorraine Williams enjoyed the lunch.



Gloria Lynch, left, and Drucilla Hill.

Harvard Street Health targets pharmacy void

By Taylor Brokesh REPORTER CORRESPONDENT

Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center (NHC) on Blue Hill Avenue is encouraging residents who have been impacted by recent pharmacy closures to take advantage of their services.

US Sen. Ed Markey, Sen. Elizabeth Warren, US Rep. Ayanna Pressley, and Mayor Wu had all lobbied Walgreens CEO Tim Wentworth in recent months to reconsider the closing of the last Walgreens in Roxbury, located at 416 Warren St., but the location was permanently shuttered on Jan. 31.

At the Urban League of Eastern Massachusetts's annual meeting on the same day, Wu said that the city was exploring the possibility that a locally owned pharmacy could move into the same location, or that they could potentially form a partnership with Lyft to provide free or reduced fare to transport residents to other nearby pharmacies.

The Jan. 31 shutdown was the fourth by Walgreens in the neighborhoods of Boston in just over a year. Critics say it signals a shift away from neighborhoods of color to communities that are predominantly white.

In the meantime, community health centers in the vicinity can be a viable and convenient replacement for those who need to fill prescriptions. Harvard Street is one of several health centers that have their own pharmacies inside their buildings. Others include Codman Square, Whittier Street, Uphams Corner, Neponset Health, Geiger-Gibson, and DotHouse Health.

Jessica Da Rosa, director of operations at Harvard Street NHC, said staff have been proactively reaching out to patients in their system who had at one time filled



Euclides Mendez Nivar, a patient at Harvard Street Neighborhood Health Center, fills a prescription with certified pharmacy technician Habib Azoui, at the center's pharmacy on Blue Hill Avenue. Dorchester's network of community health centers can help fill the void left by several chain pharmacy stores that have closed in recent months.

HSNHC photo

their prescriptions at the Warren St. Walgreens.

"Many of them have been very upset because they've been using Walgreens for such a long time, and it could've been a few doors down or a couple of streets over for them, so it was very convenient," Da Rosa said.

On the other hand, Da Rosa said, the pharmacy at HSNHC is located within the same building as all of their other services, such as family medicine, behavioral health, eye care, dental care and more.

"When [a patient is] here for their appointment, they can just walk upstairs once they're done with their visit or walk downstairs and grab their meds on their way out," Da Rosa said. The one caveat is that only HSNHC patients can use the pharmacy.

"It's really simple," Da Rosa said, "You can give

us a call or you can just walk into the clinic. We do all the insurance verification. And even if you

don't have insurance, that's not a problem, we can help you with that." Harvard Street

NHC, she said, can also deliver prescriptions to patients' homes.

The outreach efforts, Da Rosa said, have been mainly to let community members know that even among the recent loss of pharmacies, they haven't been completely abandoned.

"We have many different departments that do outreach," Da Rosa said. "They're out at community events, or just walking the streets, to let folks know about Harvard Street and the services we offer. And although it's sad to hear and it affects our community tremendously, they are saying 'we are here' as a service and folks can feel free to become our patient and in turn use our pharmacy."
The Harvard Street

Neighborhood Health Center has been in operation since 1969 with a mission of providing quality health care to Bostonians regardless of their ability to pay.

"We just want folks to know we're not going anywhere," Da Rosa said. "We've been here for fifty-plus years. And we're here to help."

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COMMONWEALTH OF THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE AND FAMILY COURT
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE Docket No. SU24P0161EA ESTATE OF: GILBERT JOHN DIAS DATE OF DEATH: 08/01/2023 SUFFOLK DIVISION

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Peti tioner Jacqueline Dias of Mattapan MA. Jacqueline Dias of Mattapan MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure Acopy of the Petition and Will, if any can be obtained from the Petitioner

Published: February 22, 2024

COMMONWEALTH OF THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK DIVISION 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 Docket No. SU23D2181DR DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION and MAILING DARLENE T. HODGES

NATHANIEL A. HODGES

To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matte preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the cur rent financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Darlene T. Hodges, 120 Adams Street, Apartmen 2, Boston, MA 02122 your answer, if any, on or before **03/21/2024**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 9, 2024 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate Published: February 22, 2024

COMMONWEALTH OF THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK DIVISION 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 Docket No. SU24D0168DR DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION and MAILING SHIRIN ISMAYILLI

ORKHAN MAMMADOV

To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of the Marriage. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matte reventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411

You are hereby summoned and eguired to serve upon: Shirin Ismavilli 5 Monadnock St., Boston, MA 02125 your answer, if any, on or before 04/25/2024. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

Witness, HON, BRIAN J. DUNN. irst Justice of this Court. Date: February 6, 2024

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate Published: February 22, 2024

COMMONWEALTH OF THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT
SUFFOLK DIVISION 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114
Docket No. SU23D2352DR
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION and MAILING MAICO MAISONNEUVE

vs. RANISHA ROYELLE MAISONNEUVE

To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint fo Divorce requesting that the Court gran divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown The Complaint is on file at the Court
An Automatic Restraining Order has een entered in this matter preventing you from taking any action which woul egatively impact the current financia status of either party. SEE Supplementa Probate Court Rule 411.

You are hereby summoned and re quired to serve upon: Jaye Lara Samuels Esq., Infinity Law Group LLC, One Adams Place, Suite 400, Quincy, MA02169 you answer, if any, on or before **03/27/2024** If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a

copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court. Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court. Date: February 2, 2024

Stephanie L. Everett, Esq Register of Probate Published: February 22, 2024

COMMONWEALTH OF THE TRIAL COURT PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK DIVISION 24 NEW CHARDON STREET BOSTON, MA 02114 Docket No. SU23D0860DR DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION and MAILING LINA JOSE GOMES BURGO

vs. JOHN DAVIS BURGO

To the Defendant: The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of Marriage The Complaint is on file t the Court. An Automatic Restraining Order has been entered in this matte preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the cur ent financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411

You are hereby summoned and re-juired to serve upon: Lina Jose Gomes Burgo 60 Bickford Street Floor 2 Door Jamaica Plain, MA 02130 answer, if any, on or before **04/25/2024**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, if any, in the office of the Register of this Court.

Witness, HON. BRIANJ. DUNN, First ustice of this Court.

Date: February 6, 2024 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate Published: February 22, 2024

COMMONWEALTH OF THE TRIAL COURT
PROBATE & FAMILY COURT SUFFOLK DIVISION
24 NEW CHARDON STREET
BOSTON, MA 02114
Docket No. SU24D0147DR
DIVORCE SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION and MAILING KEVIN MUSSENDEN

ROSE ANN MUSSENDEN To the Defendant:
The Plaintiff has filed a Complaint for

Divorce requesting that the Court grant a divorce for Irretrievable Breakdown of Marriage. The Complaint is on file at the Court. An Automatic Restra Order has been entered in this matte preventing you from taking any action which would negatively impact the current financial status of either party. SEE Supplemental Probate Court Rule 411

You are hereby summoned and required to serve upon: Kevin Mussenden, 132 Callender St., Boston MA 02124 your answer, if any, on or before **03/29/2024**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer, any, in the office of the Register of

this Court. Witness, HON. BRIAN J. DUNN, First Justice of this Court.

Date: February 5, 2024 Stephanie L. Everett, Esq. Register of Probate

Published: February 22, 2024

RECENT OBITUARIES



BURKE, Albert F., 81, of Dorchester. Father to Joseph of Dorchester, and Eileen Cook of Florida. Grandfather of 2. Great grandfather of 3. Brother of Claire Grant, Marilyn Harrington, Paul, Russell, and Robert Burke, and the late Edmund Burke. Albert is also survived by many nieces and nephews.

DUGGAN, Margaret "Peg" M. (Hennessey), 81, of Weymouth, formerly of Braintree and

Dorchester. Wife of the late Jeremiah F. Duggan. Mother of Paul Duggan, Doreen Duggan, and John Duggan. Grand-mother of 3. Sister of the late Suzanne and Thomas. Dear aunt of Julie Lyons.



GARRITY, Barbara A. (Howard), 90, of Hingham and OFD. Barbara worked part time at the Carney Hospital until retiring in 2005. Barbara was the wife of the late Paul Garrity; mother of Joan Pozerski and her husband John of

Marshfield, Nancy Rufo and her husband Michael of Duxbury, Paul Garrity and his wife Kristin of Hingham and Stephen Garrity of Duxbury; and Nana of 10. She is also survived by her brother John "Jack" Howard of Dennis, many nieces and nephews, and numerous great nieces and nephews. Barbara was predeceased by her parents John and Catherine (Burke) Howard, daughter baby Catherine and her sister Mary (Julian). Donations in Barbara's memory can be made to: Linden Ponds Scholarship Fund (300 Linden Ponds Way, Hingham, MA 02043) or the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation (JDRF.org).

HARTER, Margaret Mary (Hughes), 73, of Quincy, originally from Dorchester. Mother of Caera Gramore of Washington, John Harter, Jr. of Hyde Park, Denise Harter of Barn-

ST. JUDE'S NOVENA

of Jesus be adored, glori-

fied, loved and preserved

throughout the world,

now and forever. Sacred

Heart of Jesus pray for us, St. Jude, Worker of Miracles, pray for us. St.

Jude Helper of the Hope-

less, pray for us. Say this prayer 9 times

a day. By the 8th day your

prayer will be answered.

It has never been known

to fail. Publication must

be promised. My prayers

ST. JUDE'S NOVENA

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fied, loved and preserved

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It has never been known

to fail. Publication must

K.A.A.

less, pray for us.

May the Sacred Heart

have been answered.

May the Sacred Heart



Quincy, several nieces and nephews, and Alexis MacLeod, mother of Andy and Rachel. She was predeceased by her parents Thomas and Marion (Leahy) Hughes, and her sisters Marilyn and Eleanor. Donations in Margaret's memory may go to Justice Resource Institute, ATTN: Account Receivable, 160 Gould Street Suite 300,



Needham Heights, MA

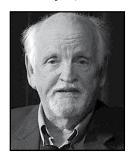
PERKINS, D'Andre, 21, of Dorchester. Son of Demitra E. Perkins. He was a remarkable son, cherished brother, and inspiring role model. He was a talented barber and self-taught loctician, a passionate basketball player with a history as a Pop Warner football player for the Boston Bengals, an entrepreneur, a viral content creator, a public figure, and a musician. As a former Youth Usher at Ebenezer Baptist Church, he embodied the spirit of peace instilled by his devout Christian mother. He viewed the world with wonder and hope, leaving an indelible mark. His laughter and light extended to a vast family of aunts, uncles, great aunts, uncles, cousins, and an inclusive brotherhood of adopted siblings welcomed by his



PRESIDENT Dorchester. of Daughter to Eric and Tara President. Ny'Asia joined the STEMMING while Black program during college which is a multicultural program catering to students interested in science, technology, engineering

Charles ("Charlie") Rasmussen

Charles ("Charlie") Rasmussen passed away on February 9, 2024 at the age of 80 after a short



illness. He was surrounded by his wife of nearly 50 years, Dagmar, and his children, Eric and Raz, listening to some of his favorite music by Al Green and Bob Marley.

Charlie was born on October 28, 1943 to his parents, Charlotte and Ollie Rasmussen, in the San Pedro neighborhood of Los

Angeles, California. Charlie's parents were labor organizers and he learned from them to stand up for civil rights and peace. Charlie was fortunate to grow up with a close-knit group of friends with whom he stayed close his entire life.

Charlie worked for social change throughout his life. While studying at Los Angeles Harbor College in the 1960s, he and his friends established a multiracial youth center. Later, Charlie moved to San Francisco, California to attend San Francisco State University, where he was a leader in the Students for a Democratic Society during a campus-wide strike (led by the Black Students Union and The Third World Liberation Front) to successfully establish an ethnic studies depart-

Charlie moved to Boston in 1971 and quickly became a part of the community, meeting his wife Dagmar and a wide circle of friends. Dagmar and Charlie married in 1977. Charlie became an EMT and served as a union steward in the EMT union. In the early 80s, he decided to follow his youthful ambitions and pursue a career in broadcasting. From 1985 To 1999, Charlie ran Neighborhood Network News, where he mentored generations of communications students and young journalists, told the stories of Boston's neighborhoods, and built relationships with everyone from community members to mayors. In 1999, Charlie switched gears again, becoming the Communications Director for Speaker of the Massachusetts House of Representatives, Tom Finneran. Charlie was never afraid to jump into the unknown, and he loved the energy and excitement of working in politics. Charlie's last chapter of his career was spent working for the Massachusetts Nurses Association, traveling all over the state to strategize with and support nurses during strikes and negotiations.

As much as Charlie loved his activism and work, his greatest joys were his family, friends, and hobbies. He was a devoted husband, equal partner, and best friend to his wife Dagmar for almost 50 years. They shared their joys, pains, and the day-to-day business of life with love and mutual respect. Their children remember them ending every disagreement with laughter.

Charlie was a fun, loving, and proud dad, enjoying long conversations about politics, sports, and pop culture with his kids, and bragging about their accomplishments to others. He was a fun and loyal friend, who could be the life of the party while also there to lend a sympathetic ear. Most recently, he became the epitome of a doting 'Gramps" to his two grandchildren.

He was an avid cyclist (a hobby he took up in his 40s), often biking the Blue Hills, and an equally avid Patriots and Red Sox fan. He loved to read, and listen to live music.

Charlie will be deeply missed by so many - the mark of a life well-lived.

He is predeceased by his parents, Charlotte and Ollie Rasmussen, his sister, Mary Thea Smelcer, and his nephew, Vincent Smelcer. He is survived by his wife, Dagmar Pollex; children, Eric Pollex Rasmussen and Raz Pollex; daughter-in-law, Elizabeth Ferguson; grandchildren, Clare and Evan Rasmussen; and nephew Matthew Smelcer. A memorial service will be announced at a later date. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to the Southern Poverty Law Center or Jobs with Justice.



Ny'Asia Ashley "Ny"

and mathematics. After graduating, she became certified as a Clinical Research Associate and was accepted as a team member at the Massachusetts General Hospital Cancer Research Department. She leaves her parents, Eric and Tara President; Grandparents Josie and George Summers. Aunts and uncles; Ida (Arthur) Sturdivant, Willie (Beverly) President, Viola

(late Charles) Wilson, Rose President, Carol (Charles) Cooper, Ernest President. (Patricia) Theresa (Michael) Grannum. Gregory (Marilyn) Butler, Regina (Keving Kerr) Butler and Tony Godparents Butler. ;Fanita Grubbs, Cassandra Davis and Marietta Mitchell. She will also be remembered by a host of cousins' extended family and her dearest friends.



Cedar Grove Cemetery

A quiet place on the banks of the Neponset River

Contact the office for information on the cost of burial needs, memorial benches and memorial trees. The Cemetery office is open Monday – Friday 8:00 to 5:00, and Saturday 8:00 to noon. The Cemetery grounds are open year round 7:00 am to sunset weather permitting.

920 Adams St., Dorchester, MA 02124 • 617-825-1360 Consecrated in 1868. Non-Sectarian.

TEVNAN|**TEVNAN**

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Attorneys at Law

be promised. My prayers www.tevnan.com have been answered.

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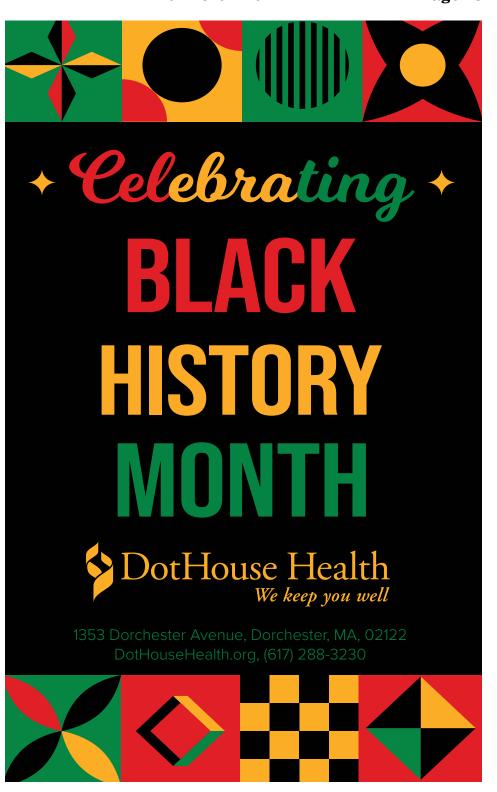
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REMEMBERING CHARLES J. MONAHAN JR.



THE DIGNITY OF LABOR DEPENDS NOT ON WHAT YOU DO, BUT HOW YOU DO IT."

- EDWIN OSGOOD GROVER

We remember and honor the many contributions of our brother, Charles "Chuck" Monahan. Chuck was a 56-year member of Local 103 IBEW, a beloved leader, and a true friend to all working people.

We turned to Chuck when we needed help and he never let us down, helping workers through addiction recovery and injury.

Chuck created and expanded the Brotherhood Assistance Program and established the Brotherhood Fund, organizations that support his fellow union members in crisis.

He also made construction sites safer and worked tirelessly to ensure workers knew how to protect themselves. Every day, working people across the state are safer and healthier thanks to Charles Monahan. His memory is a blessing to all.



